

# RHETORIC

VOL. 2 NO. 7

FEBRUARY 13, 1976



## *Out with the old, in with the new*

Former F.S.C. President, James Hammond, has roamed on to greener pastures. He is now the Chancellor of the Massachusetts State College System. Taking over his vacated spot is Vincent Mara. Read the story and a Rhetoric interview with the new President on page 5.

## *Say buddy, can you spare \$10*

Athletic Director, Thomas Battinelli, refers to a sports program in shambles and proposes a \$10 per year increase in the athletic fee. Read Dr. Battinelli's remarks on page 15.



## *Long live the weeds*

Rhetoric's roving photographic genius, Gunther IV, directs his camera to winter's touch upon the belly of Fitchburg State. Gunther, who possesses Andreas Feininger's autograph, offers his art in a pictorial centerfold on pages 10 and 11. This symbolic "Black Snow, White Snow" photo is only one of Gunty's meaningfully artistic statements.





# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

... AND OTHER PEOPLE



## STRICTLY ENRAGED

Dear Editor,

I was very let down with your last edition of the Rhetoric, the F.S.C. newspaper.

Some personals were submitted with the intentions of being printed. You asked, for contributions, and finally received some. Although only personals, they were my contributions to this paper, by and for students. There was a reason behind each one, and many people would have understood them. Personally, I think they would have been more interesting than some of the other "articles and pictures" that I encountered.

I am truly sorry if my contributions were not to your liking, but as editor I guess you have the right to use favoritism in placing unbiased contributions.

I sure hope the paper improves next semester and includes a variety of student contributions.

Sincerely  
Ima Writer

P.S. May I re-submit this contribution now - "Shlitz. Be on tap at the pub some nite soon! - The Junior."

Also; IF I am being unfair; like maybe you put all the contributions in a hat and picked out a certain number, then I apologize; but I don't feel as though that was the way it was done.

(Editor's reply)

I'm sorry that your selection was overlooked, but; it is impossible to cram all of the tidbits that bombard us into Strictly Personal. I do not use anything resembling favoritism in editing such items, for to be perfectly frank; I don't give a damn. I believe the column is a worthwhile addition to the Rhetoric, but; it has gotten quite tiresome.

Each week we find, roughly, forty-one pounds of such quaint witicisms as - "Bippy, How is Bertha's tongue", and "TADS, I want to suck on your uncle - Love, the Hunk". I merely extract a few of the least obnoxious ones and voila, the birth of another brilliant strictly personal column.

I do not want to discourage anyone from using Strictly Personal as a means of creative expression, however; every once in awhile, I become depressed when it seems that the only response the Rhetoric illicit from the student body is forty-one pounds of - "Hi Ramrod, How is your pet Boa constrictor?"

If you turn to page 18, column 4, you will discover your personal.

## DISENCHANTED WITH F.S.C.

F.S.C. is probably the worst example of male chauvinism I have ever seen, and unfortunately the females are to blame. Even though the ratio of females to males is 7 to 1, the girls have still chosen to take the back

seat and have let the men take full charge of the social life at F.S.C.

With the large amount of girls attending here I thought that there would be a great deal more female oriented activities under way. Instead, women are more dependent on the handfull of men for their enjoyment. And the few activities that do take place are treated with a sense of apathy, unlike those of the men. The reason being that most girls are busy fantasizing about boyfriends and husbands. No wonder the guys would rather be with each other, then with girls who are including them in plans like that. And naturally the guys are eating it up at the same time they are running from it, thus putting the minority of girls who aren't like that in a humiliating situation.

Instead of the girls getting together and finding out what they have to offer each other, besides gossip about the guys, they have become their worst enemies. It is like a jungle scene where hungry lionesses hunt for meat to savage. Women actually compete against each other because they are so outnumbered by the available males. That is one reason that I think the fraternities and sororities have something to offer, the very least, they try to provide for outlets for other interests.

I think that the biggest problem is that most of the male-female relationships here are too sexist. It seems that people don't feel relaxed enough about themselves to relate to each other as human beings, without first categorizing them by sex. It is especially noticeable when groups of one sex cluster together constantly at places like the cafeteria, the pubs and at any other social gatherings. There is naturally a sexist tension created, why there are all the guys sitting together gawking at the girls and all the girls sit together and gawk back. I think that if everybody else has to offer them as individuals, regardless of their sex, life at F.S.C. would become less stifling.

Sincerely,  
Cindy Ragan

## A NOTE OF THANKS

To The Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Betty Armstrong, wife of Duane Armstrong our Financial Aid Director, for her amiable cooperation concerning a recent automobile accident of which we both participated in. Indeed, she even went as far as to write correspondence on my behalf; truly this is a tribute to her altruistic qualities.

Furthermore, since the horrible road conditions in Fitchburg were mainly responsible for the accident in the first place, I truly believe that neither of us should be blamed. Thus, our insurance rates should not be escalated as a result.

Sincerely,  
Bernard J. Schultz III

## OH BROTHER!

Editor,

In the last edition, I saw a letter to the editor put in by the Neasylon Society. It was about how they love each other as sisters and told all of the wonderful benefits brothers and sisters in frats and sororities get. I think the Neasylyons said it beautifully, but; I would like to add my feelings, too. I have written this poem to get my message across. It is called, I'm Proud to Call Him Brother.

I'm Proud to Call Him Brother  
I'm proud to call him brother.  
I know he stands by my side.  
I'm proud to wear the jacket  
that symbolizes our fraternal pride.

We walk with heads high together  
and always lend a helping hand.  
I'm proud to call him my brother  
For he has helped me become a man.

Thank you,  
a man who speaks for  
the Frats and Sororities.

## HETEROSEXUAL HEADACHES

There are so few females who strike me as attractively desirable or stir that caldron of wonderlust. I miss that feeling too. I cannot ascertain the reason but the majority of women whom I meet, impress me about as much as a melted fudgsicle. I do not even wish to exchange mild pleasantries with most of them. I do not hate women; by any means. I adore the feminine concept. I would peddle my soul to Satan for a woman (a real one). But these babbling bean-headed broads drive me batty; and there are so damned many of them knocking about these days. In the past, I had always found women to be at least as desirable as they were lethal. Lately though, they are just killing me.

But my chauvinism lives on. I'll give a woman a lot, believe me I will, but I cannot stomach the horde of gossip girls who congregate along in phalanxes of peer-pressured identicalness. I'd love to spot a few more precious individuals out there, but all I see is a sea of stereotypes. A good buddy of mine says that Fitchburg State College is swamped with ignorant and inane girls in search of the suburbs. Once I strongly disagreed with him, now I do not know.

signed  
a lonely lover

## GETTING THE BUSINESS

To The Editor:

Is courteous assistance gradually eluding our local businessmen? Quite frankly, I tend to believe so and will cite a couple of for instances.

A few short weeks ago, I had the good fortune to acquire a fire hole in my front seat while my car was being serviced at a gas station on Lunenburg Street. Unable to ascertain the cause, the service station attendant assured me that he would assume the costs involved. However, after much procrastination, he offered me only \$20.00 for my troubles. And when I told him that I thought he was liable for the entire amount, he promptly lost his "cool" and decided that the previous minor adjustment done to my car when the vandalism occurred was now worth \$22.50. Anyway, I told him I'd owe it to him. Hurriedly, I escaped out the door before a wrench was hurled in my direction. Does this sound like courteous assistance? No, this occurrence has connotations of being literally a "rip-off."

Another example of anything but courteous assistance also took place recently. Desiring to obtain a copy of a previous day's Boston newspaper, I casually visited a small market on Pearl Street. At first, the "gentleman" behind the meat counter did show me his last copy of the Boston Herald-American. However, the paper did not entirely contain the information I was seeking. Consequently, I asked him to leave it out. Actually, I was attempting to save him the trouble of carting it back to some obscure room from where it was originally retrieved. His reply or question was as follows while he continued to butcher his damn meat, "Do you think all I have time to do is to sell you a newspaper." My reply was something to the effect that I was sorry to bother him. As he probably aimed a pork chop at me, I departed with the general impression that he was, in fact, the "pork chop."

Students, if you think honestly that these tales are fictitious, then you're certainly living in "ivory towers." And in a way I feel sorry for you; for you and you and you may just be the next victim of the "courteous" businessman.

A Disgusted Consumer

## YAWNS

Boredom is not the fault of the one who is bored but the fault of the one who spreads it. This semester, as usual, I am subjected to a gang of boring instructors who are about as exciting as a wet roll of toilet paper. Because I have had vast experience as a member of the bored, I would like to share with the newcomers my favorite modes of diversion and stimulation to the gang.

1. Imagine that the instructor is rude and playing tennis against Chrissie Evert. The thought of the naked teacher lunging about is usually enough to stymie me from sleep. With or without clothes, Chrissie Evert is very stimulating.

2. Mercilessly stare at the shyest girl in the class. The more uncomfortable and self-conscious she feels, the better. And don't feel guilty about this, for not only are you keeping yourself awake but you're also doing the same for her.

3. Write an obscene letter to the instructor's spouse. If the teacher is really boring, send the note. Chances are good that you'll get a positive response.

4. Make strange little noises that disrupt the class. It helps if you can throw your voice so it appears that the fat broad in the first row is the culprit.

5. Walter Mitty yourself into some adventurous escapade. My favorite has something to do with a Skippy Peanut Factory, Soldier Ants, and Yvette Mimieux.

6. Yawn in a foreign language. Don't try this unless you are really bored. I prefer French yawning but I don't recommend it for beginners.

I could go on forever, but I do not want to divulge all of my favorite techniques. Try these though, for there is nothing more boring than one who allows himself to be bored.

Sincerely  
R. Anderson

## BITE THE BULLET

To the Editor,

I guess we ought to thank the administration or whoever it was that gave us the faculty evaluation by students. Our math class figured out that if only 10 percent of a class zapped an instructor by bulleting; his rating really goes down - something like a 4.5 instead of a 5. Imagine if his real rating was a 2.5 - anything around 2 or below would probably get him fired as an "unacceptable" instructor. You bullet by marking his sheet almost all E's. It only takes a few sheets like this to zap him. If you can't round up enough in the class to do it bring in a few ringers - the instructor usually doesn't give his own class the sheets; and the poor guy giving it doesn't know whose supposed to be there or not. Why zap? Well you don't really zap unless you have to, you just let the instructor know by hinting that you COULD. Its amazing how pliable an instructor becomes. No more flak, no more static, no more lousy grades - their really NICE. Of course if the instructor is really jerky you zap anyway. Instructor's beware!

Ferdy

## TO ERR IS HUMANE

Dear Editor,

Numerous spelling hand grammatical errors render your publication totally inane and idiotical. I suggest that your editor proff reed the items or learn how to spell. I have grown weary of suck miscues.

Sincerely,  
Robert Pierpont





# Doonesbury

## More Letters

MICHENER:  
HANG ON THROUGH THE CRAP!

Don't be too calculating. Don't be too scientific. Don't let the shrinks terrify you or dictate the movements of your life.

There is a divine irrelevance in the universe and many men and women win through to a sense of greatness in their lives by stumbling and fumbling their way into patterns that gratify them and allow them to utilize their endowments to the maxium.

If Swarthmore College in 1925 had employed even a half-way decent guidance counselor, I would have spent my life as an assistant professor of education in some midwestern university. Because when I reported to college it must have been apparent to everyone that I was destined for some kind of academic career. Nevertheless, I was allowed to take Spanish, which leads to nothing, instead of French or German, which as everyone knows are important languages studied by serious students who wish to gain a Ph.D.

Instead, I continued to putter around with Spanish and found a deep affinity for it. In the end, I was able to write a book about Spain which will probably live longer than anything else I've done. In other words, I blindly backed into a minor masterpiece...

I had spent a good deal of my early time knocking around this country and Europe, trying to find out what I believed in, what values were large enough to enlist my sympathies during what I sensed would be a long and confused life. Had I committed myself at age eighteen as I was encouraged to do, I would not even have known the parameters of the problems, and any choice I might have made then would have had to be wrong.

It took me forty years to find out the facts. As a consequence, I have never been able to feel anxiety about young people who are fumbling their way toward the enlightenment that will keep them going. I doubt that a young man - unless he wants to be a doctor or a research chemist, where a substantial body of specific knowledge must be mastered within a prescribed time - can waste time, regardless of what he does. I believe you have till age thirty-five to decide finally on what you are going to do, and that any exploration you pursue in the process will in the end turn out to have been creative.

Indeed, it may well be the year that observers describe as 'wasted' that will prove to have been the most productive of those insights which will keep you going."

By James Michener,  
From the ORACLE,  
University of South Florida

### C.P. TELETHON

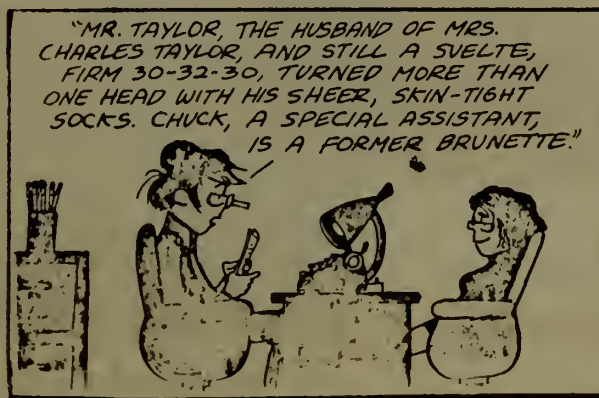
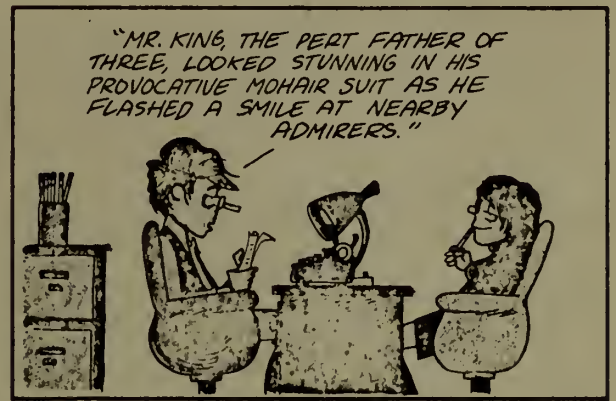
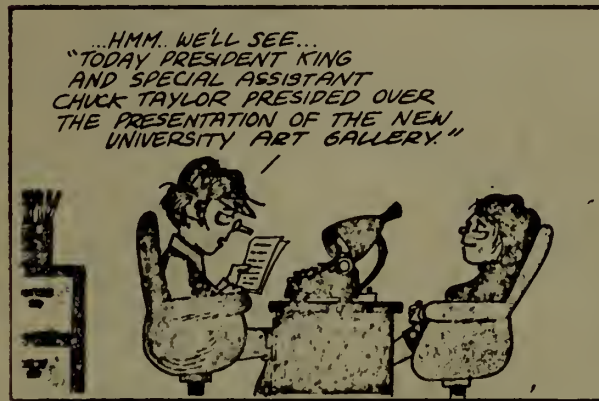
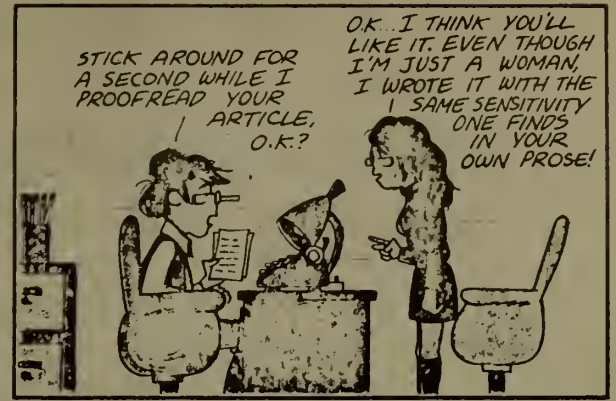
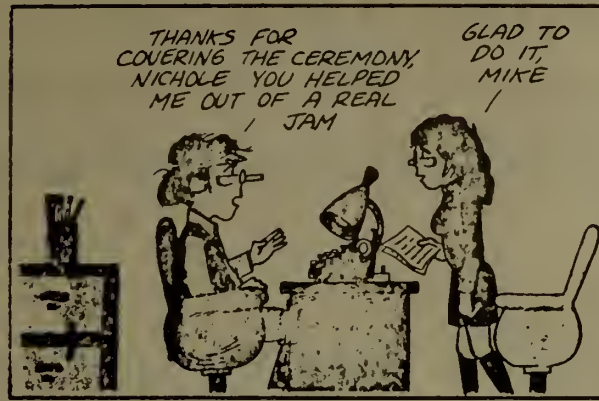
The 25th Anniversary of the United Cerebral Palsy Telethon, 1976 Edition, took place Saturday - and Sunday, January 31 and February 1. Once again the Special Ed. Club of F.S.C. sponsored a phone station on campus getting volunteers from the college community. Last years Telethon raised over (5,600) during the (20) hour telethon. This years telethon began with great expectations with a hopeful, personal prediction of (6,500) at the end of the telethon. The total amount pledged was (7,732).

People made the difference. I would like to thank all those who answered phones and assisted in many other ways. You all know who you are, I can't mention you all, I can only say thanks, from someone who has C.P. and let you know that it means as much to me, as it does to the kids who will be helped by the money in the future.

Thanks also are extended to those who supervised; Mr. Tiarentino, Mr. Brown and Dr. Goldman of the Spec. Ed Dept. I would also like to thank those who donated food and other materials; Dunkin Donuts, and McDonalds of Fitchburg, Interstate United, and the girls in the dorm who baked brownies.

It is amazing what people can do together when they work for something. This experience proved to me that people need people. I could have been lost without the time and efforts of others. For that I'm very thankful.

Thanks Again  
Al Powers  
Charimen - Fitchburg  
C.P. Telethon



### "WHAT'S UP ON CAMPUS"

Several weeks ago the Rhetoric published a sex survey to which there were only two replies. Because of the lack of a formal response we decided to conduct our own informal study on the subject. A cross section of students was asked the question "How's your sex life?"

- It's hard to come by
- Limp
- That's a sticky question
- It comes and goes
- I can't get into it
- Nothing popped up this semester
- Come again?
- I'm holding on
- I'm sticking it out
- I've been spreading myself a bit too thin lately
- It's a - head of the game
- It's dull period
- Double meat, double meat
- That's a hard one to answer
- Let me get up & think about it
- Giving it to your straight...
- Pregnant with possibilities
- Plop plop, fizz fizz, oooh what a relief it is.

That concludes our survey. For additional information on the subject contact anyone you can get your hands on.

Sincerely,  
Demons

### A GIFT HORSE OF A DIFFERENT COLOR

Dear Editor,

I've been reading and enjoying the Rhetoric a great deal this year and I would personally like to thank you for doing a truly outstanding job as editor of this wonderful publication. I would also like to bestow my praise to the other superbly magnificent people who create the Rhetoric, and add that you have all served this college admirably and certainly deserve lofty plaudits. Keep up the good work!

sincerely,  
Stephen Walkowicz

(Ed. note)

Thank you for a wonderful letter. It was very nice of you to take the time to write us. You must be quite a guy. It really does warm our hearts and make us feel all runny inside when we receive such fine letters. Thanks again.

## The Rhetoric



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### THINGS YOU MIGHT LIKE TO KNOW

The Rhetoric is published every other week and is distributed free of charge at various locations on campus. Anyone wishing to send articles, comments, personals, letters, etc. to Rhetoric should drop their material in the on-campus mail slot or in the Rhetoric office, located in the basement of Thompson Hall. All material will be considered; however, we reserve the right to edit as well as to choose what is suitable for publication. The Rhetoric staff always welcomes any warm bodies to join our newspaper.

Policy Regarding Advertising in the Rhetoric:

Any person or persons who will stand to profit from the activity advertised will be required to pay for their ads.

Any recognized non-profit organization will not be charged for advertising space up to 1/4 page.

Standard rates are:

Full Page	\$120.00
Half Page	\$ 60.00
Quarter Page	\$ 30.00
Eighth Page	\$ 15.00
Column (2 1/2 x 2)	\$ 5.00



# OPINIONS

*"Let men among themselves talk and think forever obscenely of women! And let women among themselves talk and think obscenely of men!"*  
- Walt Whitman from *Respondez!*

## POT SHOTS

### ROADS OF HELL

It is never much fun driving along the streets near Fitchburg State, but in the midst of this ungodly horrid winter season, one should be rewarded 3 credits for their troubles. Parking spaces which are usually as rare as pimples on the face of Cheryl Tiegs, are impossible to locate. Thanks to ol' Hedley Bray, the mayor of this picturesque burg, the conditions of the roads are slick and sickening. Watching the cars slide down North Street is like attending the Ice Capades in Boston Garden. There are no immediate remedies for the winter headaches except perhaps spring, but anyone with sense might begin by transforming North Street into a one-way avenue. In the meantime, driving about the campus will continue to drive me absolutely looney.

### MEAT ON THE HOOF

The Fitchburg Falcons' basketball triumph over favored Salem State on Thursday,

February 5 was a tainted victory in a disappointing season. One of the major reasons for that upset victory was the inspired play of Billy Donavon, the 6'9" center who played valiantly despite a battered knee which forced him to hobble up and down the court. Twice Billy, writhing in pain, had to be assisted from the court, only to return minutes later, the immense courage and desire of Donavon were tremendous and he can not be faulted for wanting to play even at the risk of irreparable damage to his knee. The coaching staff however, should not have allowed him any choice in the matter.

Billy Donavon should not have played at all in the Salem State game. Still, although it was obvious that he was in great pain throughout the contest and that he could barely jump or maneuver effectively, he started and finished.

One can not help but wonder if one lousy victory is worth sacrificing a young man's health. A sensitive man would never have allowed Billy Donavon in such a condition, to step on to the court. A good coach would never treat a ballplayer like a prize steer and risk so much for so damned little.

### THE BOOB TUBE

The Cultural Arts Committee rates the "Boob of the Month" award for bringing the movie Jeremiah Johnson, aired on the tube for the masses only 11 days earlier, to the silver screen of Weston Auditorium. The gang from CAC even had the raw gall to charge 50 cents admission and advertised it as - "see the uncensored version of Jeremiah Johnson". Apparently not yet satisfied though, they solidified their chances of grabbing the infamous "Boob of the Year" award, by showing Deliverance, on the teley only 6 days earlier, at Weston the following Thursday.

Although the year is young, it would appear that the Cultural Arts Committee has the annual dishonor of boobdom locked up. We, the students, are again the losers.

### IT'S CARNIVAL TIME

The hoopla of yet another Winter Carnival weekend is almost upon us. Next to the infamous evening of Olympic foolery, this has to be the most over-rated and trifling event on campus. The basic concept of a carnival

weekend filled with the pursuit of hedonistic satisfaction is fine, but unfortunately, a large portion of the campus resort to fulfilling the roles of frivolous clowns. Winter Carnival has become a spotlight for high school immaturity.

### GREENER PASTURES

Ex-President James Hammond has trekked on to greener pastures; and we wish him the best of luck in his new adventures. Now that only his memory remains at Fitchburg State, it may be appropriate to examine the college that he left behind and the influence he had upon it. Quite simply, the college has grown in both quantity and quality. His "invisible man" public relations policy is no longer of any consequence, and the only thing that matters is that under Hammond, Fitchburg State not only survived, but evolved into a finer school. In this light, it is evident that James Hammond did the job required of him. We are not here to praise Hammond, but rather to wish him well in his future position as Chancellor of the Mass. State College system.

## New registration format receives praise



Those days of sleeping on the icy steps of the Behavioral Science building and shoving through lines as long as Pennsylvania are over. The ominous monster "Registration" has been vanquished. A younger, more gentle beast has inhabited its lair.

"This new Format seems to be operating quite smoothly", said one amazed administrator. "It is now quite rare for a student to spend more than an hour registering for classes". Most students, too, regarded it as a dearly needed improvement.

Comments included:

"I registered in twenty minutes; can you believe it? and I got all my classes! I feel like kissing the guy responsible for this."

"I sort of miss seeing all those dumb girls go whacky, and like a pack of screaming

Indians, invade B.S. But this is better."

"Three of my classes closed out; so what is the difference?"

"I finished in next to no time, so I've got time left for some breakfast at Slattery's."

"For Fitchburg State, it is a major breakthrough!"

Necessity may have dictated this change, for the budgetary crisis became a monkey wrench in the school schedule, but nevertheless, the new registration format is a major breakthrough. It did operate smoothly and it did remove a most burdensome weight from the students. Let us hope that the administration will continue this format in the future and leave the ominous monster to rot in the ground.

## Has the milk of human kindness all been spoiled?

Some blustery blowy winter's day you may find yourself with one of the following afflictions to your beloved jalopy: a) frozen gas line; b) dead battery; c) sludged-up oil; d) worn out spark plugs; e) Bald snow tires, mired in three feet of snow; f) or any combination of these things. Next consider that you are a) late for class and/or work b) on a lonely stretch of highway c) not ready for one more thing to go wrong and your spirits are at an all time low. Along comes Joe Good Samaritan & gives you a hand--what a relief! But what about all those times when the Caddys & the T-Birds whizzed by, drivers safely sequestered in heated comfortable shelters, uncaring and removed-- Remember how cold it got, standing out there with that albatross of a car behind you and a frostbitten thumb in front of you? And who was it who finally stopped, unconcernedly crawled under your disabled auto & immediately coaxed your reluctant engine to life? Why, some untidy, unsavory greaser, of course -- probably some (redneck) my liberal Merle Haggard hating friend. And you, Mr. Conservative up straight Bussinessman, did you turn down the ride offered you by that much despised (long haired hippy freak)?

How many times has each of us gone by a situation where er could have helped? We rationalize, to be sure, that we are either unprepared to do much taht would be of use anyway or that the hurried looking couple in the beat up Ford on Rte 2.

I do not believe that self-sacrificing martyrs are the order of the day; nor do I respect those who whine & lean and expect others to take

on their problems, but there is an attitude, a their problems, but there is an attitude, a general feeling of people with people that comes of the willingness to reach out, touch and be touched, lend a hand-and somehow-others know-and the rewards may come back at odd times & in odd places. Perhaps the person you help may not return the favor to you, but he may go out & help another person as a result of your thoughtfulness-some gesture of kindness that restored his faith in humanity & inspired him to be a more giving person.


Are really rapists, murderers and/or robbers staging the accident to pull a job. Sure-you're scared, fella, but not of a boldup-you fear involvement; you avoid confrontation with another human being.

On an even touchier, more personal level, what would any of us do if a person (friend, casual acquaintance, stranger) walked up to us & said "Listen, I'm really down-I need a listening ear" Be honest- you'd "ah" and "ahem" and run like devils were after you! We're all afraid- What, how much, and how seriously is this person asking, and what effect will that request have on our lives? We feel threatened, invaded; we back off & take off and leave a lost soul in the dust. Of course, its not our responsibility; we are not our brother's keeper, but...

Most of the time, the things others ask of us are small, insignificant, and hardly an inconvenience at all; I could give you a glow-on in a dull baked-over world. It could even start a trend-people helping people, hmm, I wonder if it would go over.

New

Women  
Have  
Common  
Scents



**HOW TO PICK UP A MAN!**

HOW TO PICK UP MEN contains interviews with 25 handsome bachelors — lawyers, doctors, writers, businessmen, professional athletes, etc. They tell you exactly what it takes to pick them up. You will learn: • How to make shyness work for you • Why a woman doesn't have to be beautiful • How to tell when he likes you • How to smile at a man • Fifty great opening lines • World's greatest pickup technique • How to get him to pick you up • Three secrets stewardesses know • HOW TO PICK UP MEN costs only \$8.95 plus \$1.00 postage and handling. That's less than an ordinary blouse, yet so much more of a help in meeting the kind of sexy, good-looking men you're attracted to.

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# New feet fill Hammond's administrative shoes

By Mary Ellen Walsh

James J. Hammond, former president of Fitchburg State College, has been appointed Chancellor of the 10-Campus State College system, a newly created, \$49,000. per year post which Hammond is the first to hold. It seems, then, that old "Hideaway" has done the final disappearing act, and the Rhetoric will not have James Hammond to kick around any more. But, despite the numerous complaints lodged against our past administrator, there are those who will comment that this man did a good job here at Fitchburg State. One must note that Hammond's famous 'behind closed doors' policy has been quite irritating at times, as some student leaders and many faculty members will attest, but behind those doors, one must admit, some work was probably going on.

A mammoth building program was initiated while Hammond was in office; and FSC has thus far been spared faculty cuts in the face of a 'budget crisis'; whether or not either of these are accolades to a good administrator, or even if they are entirely positive points in an overview of the progress and prosperity of FSC, only that future can determine, but at any rate changes have occurred during the stewardship of Mr. Hammond, and though some of us would disagree as to the advantages of these particular programs and might suggest alternate and perhaps more significant endeavors that might have been undertaken instead, such improved services as expanded nursing program, human services program, and Medical Technological programs must be viewed as advantageous to the college, and perhaps it is as well to give credit as criticism and allow our elusive former administrator to make a graceful and dignified exit with our good wishes for a more noteworthy tenure in his new position.

family, and describes his "hobby" as simply spending time with them; they travel together, like to read and sing together, and enjoy the morning meal together almost without fail, as it is difficult to align schedules and meet for dinner every day.



Vincent J. Mara answers



Enter Mr. Vincent J. Mara, age 45, educator, family man and new president of FSC. Mr. Mara obtained his Bachelor's Degree from Worcester State College in 1952, and his Masters in education from that institution in 1956. In 1961, he was awarded his Doctorate from the University of Connecticut. Fitchburg State's new administrator comes here from Framingham State College, to which he returned after one year's experience at Salem State College as acting President. The Mara's make their home in Worcester, but soon the new president plans to relocate his wife, Claire and their five children in this community, as he feels strongly that a man in his position should be a local resident. Mr. Mara speaks warmly of his

Q: How did you learn about the position open here?

A: In general, such positions are advertised, and one can apply or be nominated and the position was listed in national educational journals. In this case, however, Mr. Mara was contacted by the board and invited to serve here.

Q: Do you have any plans to initiate new programs here at FSC?

A: By spring Mr. Mara intends to have underway a series of "Think Tank" sessions, friendly, informal, hopefully non-threatening meetings between administration and faculty with the purpose in mind of coming to mutual understandings as to "where we are and where we are going" as a college. While no college can be "all things to all people," Mr. Mara hopes to establish better communication between educators and find new ways to operate toward common goals in providing the best education possible to state college student. Mr. Mara believes in emphasizing our strengths as well as working to strengthening our weaknesses as a school, and feels that FSC is especially strong in such areas as IA and Communications; we have, he

believes, the technology and facilities for doing exciting things in these areas, and also mentioned Health Careers as a promising curriculum here.

Q: What, if any, are your educational priorities?

A: At Framingham, Mr. Mara's push was toward "academic excellence" and he does not feel that there is one particular area within education that is necessarily more important than another. He is concerned with bringing qualified diverse faculty to an institution and thus do the most to motivate students to do their best at college. He favors interdisciplinary modes of education, stressing the need for a consciously designed program to integrate Majors with related programs and provide an indepth, well-rounded educational experience.

Q: What are your long-range goals?

A: One idea Mr. Mara intends to look into is in the area of "Advisory Services" as this seems to be a problem area in colleges today. Many have posed questions as to the effectiveness of current college advisory methods, and he foresees a group of faculty members, working under a faculty leader who would devote their time to performing the function of faculty advisors. A full-time office with regular hours would operate on campus to advise students as to curriculum and a variety of other related problems. Such a situation would be, he feels, reasonable and possible, but it is not feasible in the near future due to budgetary difficulties of which we are all aware.

Q: What are your feelings about Harrington's proposed "Merger" of state colleges?

A: Mara is not in favor of Harrington's proposal, as such, but feels that Mr. Harrington does have the students best interest in mind and he hopes to meet with the Massachusetts senator in the near future to assess where the situation now stands. At present, the Board of Higher Education has been accused of favoring private over public institutions of higher learning. Mara feels that there are many expensive inefficiencies in our state schools and that we might indeed profit by a form of reorganization. He mentions, for instance, the great stress on the sciences that has existed in state schools and would suggest that more effective and efficient handling of this curriculum might be instituted by eliminating some duplications and concentrating on "Super Science" departments at one or another of the area schools, thus providing a maximum of equipment, facilities, and faculty rather than many, smaller and less adequate programs conducted at a number of schools. Mr. Mara's view of reorganization would take on a more individualistic aspect than Senator Harrington's; he is convinced that our present society is too megalomaniacal already and he disagrees with any efforts to make it more so. He favors a more personal approach whereby each school would maintain its own distinct identity and continue to function independ-

ently, but the schools in a district (i.e. Worcester County) would inter-relate more effectively. The structure he envisions would consist of Branches of State Universities, State Colleges, then Junior Colleges operating in interacting groups, providing a more powerful aggregate for political purposes but not losing their personality. Legislators, he points out, work for districts rather than States and a solid group would derive many benefits as such. The prime concern here, however, states Mara, is to serve student needs.

Q: What are your feelings about some of the concern that exists today that our colleges are lowering their standards and thus producing a less articulate breed of graduates?

A: Mr. Mara does not go along with accusations that a stress toward vocational or technical programs diminishes the liberal arts aspect of public higher education. He does not agree that our schools may become "trade schools" and believes that what is needed is more practice, both on secondary and higher levels in the art of verbal and written communication. T.V. says Mara, has literally destroyed the art of conversation and our schools have gotten away from the practice of assignments that are written, probably due to the sizes of classes today. But he feels that the "Illiteracy" problems we face are real and hopes to see a return to a less visual, more writing oriented background which would provide students with the ability to write and speak coherently while at the same time giving them experience in their chosen field.

Q: Shall state schools continue to provide "equal opportunities" to all?

A: We cannot cut off opportunities to less privileged individuals and thus deprive them of the exposure they need to make them better people. Perhaps some of the less educated, poorer students do have difficulties in learning and for them Mara would provide Remedial instruction to ease them into the mainstream of college life. We must not be snobs; a poor background does not necessarily indicate that an individual would not be able to perform exceptionally well, given adequate training and aid; it is important to stress, indicates Mara, the correlation between all areas of education. not only for the underprivileged college student, but for anyone in our system. We must be made to see the inter-relationships between technology and poetry, vocational training and literature and how these diversities work to make us more well rounded individuals.

In closing, Mr. Mara again made known his sweeping ideals about education; a philosophy of "Commitment" to a goal of better, more progressive, diversely oriented education for every qualified person.

We wish Mr. Mara a good tenure here at FSC, and sincerely hope that his expressed hope of a more communicative administration becomes a reality and remains so.

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# Incredible records



The Guinness Book of World Records contains an amazing supply of insane and incredible records. Here are a few of the more astounding ones.

#### Motionlessness

The longest that a man has voluntarily remained motionless is 4½ hours by William A. Faqua of Fort Worth, Texas in the role of a

mannequin or "fashioneer," earning up to \$1,300 per hour for his ability to "freeze". The job was hazardous for on November 3, 1967, he was stabbed in the back by a man saying to his wife, "we'll see if he's real." After three weeks in the hospital, Fuqua improved his security to prevent others from pinching, poking, pouring water upon or undressing him while at work.

#### Shouting

At the "World" Shouting Competition at Scarborough, Yorkshire, England, held on February 17, 1973, the titles were taken by Skipper Kenny Leader with 111 decibels and Mrs. Margaret Featherstone with 106.6 decibels shouting "Sooo-eeee."

#### Swallowing

The worse known case of compulsive swallowing was reported to the Journal of the American Medical Association in December, 1960. The patient, who complained only of swollen ankles, was found to have 258 items in his stomach, including a 3-lb piece of metal, 26 keys, 3 sets of rosary beads, 16 religious medals, a bracelet, a necklace, 3 pairs of tweezers, 4 nail clippers, 39 nail files, 3 metal chains and 88 assorted coins.

#### Yawning

In a case reported in 1888, a 15-year-old female patient yawned continuously for a period of 5 weeks.

#### Sneezing

The most chronic sneezing fit ever recorded was that of June Clark, aged 17, of Miami. She started sneezing on January 4, 1966, while recovering from a kidney ailment in the



James M. Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami. The sneezing was stopped by electric "aversion" treatment on June 8, 1966, after 155 days. The highest speed at which expelled particles have been measured to travel is 103.64 m.p.h.

#### Hiccoughing

The longest recorded attack of hiccoughs was that afflicting Charles Osborne (b. 1894) of Arthur, Iowa, from 1922 to date. He contracted it when slaughtering a hog. His first wife left him and he is unable to keep in his false teeth.

The infirmary at New Castle upon Tyne, England, is recorded to have admitted a young man from Long Whitton, Northumberland; on March 25, 1769, suffering from hiccoughs which could be heard at a range of

more than a mile.

#### Fastest Amputation

The shortest time recorded for the amputation of a limb in the pre-anesthetic era was 33 seconds through a patient's thigh by Robert Liston (1794-1847) of Edinburgh, Scotland. This feat caused his assistant the loss of three fingers from his master's saw.

#### Longest Moustache

The longest moustache on record is that of Masuriya Din (born 1908). It grew to an extended span of 102 inches between 1949 and 1962.

#### Longest Finger Nails

The longest known set of nails now belong to the left hand of Murani Mohan Aditya, 31, of Calcutta, India. They have grown since March, 1962 to 55½ inches.

## Paperback Best Sellers

New York Times Service

#### Mass Market Books

1. "Helter Skelter." Vincent Bugliosi with Curt Gentry.
2. "Centennial." James A. Michener.
3. "The Furies." John Jakes.
4. "The Total Woman." Marabel Morgan.
5. "Lady." Thomas Tryon.
6. "All Things Bright and Beautiful." James Herriot.
7. "The Other Side of Midnight." Sidney Sheldon.
8. "T.M." Harold H. Bloomfield.
9. "The Death of a Detective." Mark Smith.
10. "Something Happened." Joseph Heller.

#### Trade Books

1. "Star Trek Star Fleet Technical Manual." Franz Joseph.
2. "Crockery Cookery." Mable Hoifman.
3. "The People's Almanac." David Wallechinsky and Irving Wallace.
4. "The Best of Life." photographs from Life magazine.
5. "Foxfire 3." Eliot Wigginton.

## Long lines for dope?

(CPS) — Is the American dope smoker next in line to be blackmailed by a group of foreign exporters?

Yes, according to HIGH TIMES magazine, which recently warned that Third World marijuana producing countries may band together and form "ODEC" -- or the Organization of Dope Exporting Countries much like oil rich countries have formed OPEC.

"We could find ourselves paying not only a dollar a gallon for gasoline, but a hundred dollars an ounce-for Mexican," says HIGH TIMES.

HIGH TIMES urged the federal government to act quickly by planting millions of acres of domestic weed so that another large group of American consumers is not cut off from its main source of energy.

## Summer employment

by Bernard J. Schultz III

Upon visiting the Division of Unemployment Security office yesterday on Broad Street in Fitchburg, one would tend to disbelieve the fact that unemployment is gradually receding in Massachusetts. Clearly, the rather long lines waiting to sign-up and persons dawdling in their dilapidated green chairs tend to indicate otherwise. However, take heart, students; for there are jobs to be had and the summer employment forecast appears rosy.

For instance, presently, factories - large and small - that specialize in the manufacturing of plastics are hiring. Other small shops (e.g. woodworking and the like) have limited openings available. The wage rate for general factory work is about \$2.30 to \$3.20 an hour. Basically though, menial jobs comprise a majority of the ready employment openings.

As for the summer employment picture, the Department of Natural Resources has its annual openings in parks and recreational areas. Applications should be filed by April or May. For further information, please contact Mr. Luukkala in the Division of Unemployment Security office.

## MIB news

by T.G.J.

BELABORING 'BEARS BOUND BEYOND BELIEF: BELLIGERENTLY BATTLE "BIRDS" — BUT BITCH BECAUSE BIT BELOW BELT BY BETTER BUNCH!

In this year's mens volleyball action the FUBEARS met the MOHAWK 'A' team in the championship set of 3 out of 5 games and lost 3 games to 2.

In other action, LEE TREVINO shot a final round from a nickel plated Bretta pistol into Johnny Miller to win the Phoenix Open and the \$37,000 first prize. Miller is listed to be in an under par condition in a local hospital.

## CIEE's Student Travel Catalog - what's in it for you?

The Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE), the largest student travel organization in the U.S., is giving the 1976 STUDENT TRAVEL CATALOG away for free. What's in it for you? If you're affiliated with a college, university or school, there's plenty! If you're a teacher, a student or an administrator, the CATALOG has 50 pages of bargains, benefits and travel advice just in time for your next trip.

This year's CATALOG, bigger than ever before, has all you need to know about the ins and outs of low-cost travel all over the world: 125 money-saving charter flights to Europe from New York, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco for all members of the educational community; and student flights at half the regular price connecting cities in Europe, Asia, Africa and the Middle East. There's even a special bargain flight to Tahiti in July that will get you there in time to join the week-long celebration of "fete."

The CATALOG also explains the extraordinary advantages of the International Student Identity Card, internationally

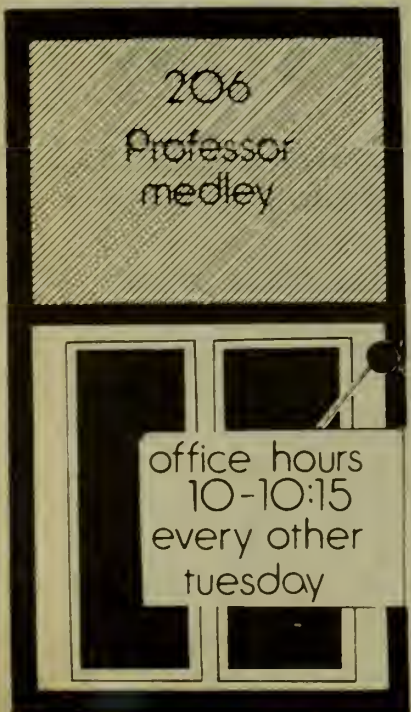
recognized proof of student status which entitles holders to thousands of discounts and benefits worldwide. The CATALOG includes information low-cost accommodations around the world, educational travel insurance, special student tours, and bargains for all students and educators in train and car travel in Europe. There's also a description of an excellent program that can help students get work in Great Britain, Germany or France.

The STUDENT TRAVEL CATALOG includes applications for everything it describes - including a list of the best books ever written for student and budget travelers.

For a copy of the STUDENT TRAVEL CATALOG, write to CIEE, Dept. EMC, at 777 United Nations Plaza, New York, New York 10017, or 236 North Santa Cruz, #314, Los Gatos, California 95030, and enclose 25 cents to cover postage costs. Or, if you're in the neighborhood, stop in and pick up a copy at either office - they're both open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.



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# EDITORIALS

Warning: The Surgeon General Has Determined That Cigarette Smoking Is Dangerous to Your Health.

by James Corrao

There are so many things to thank people who smoke cigarettes for that I don't know where to begin. I guess it would be good to start with the morning. Thanks for leaving the ash tray full of butts on the cafeteria tables, it always helps to wake me up in the morning. Thanks for blowing smoke in my direction to nauseate my stomach and fill my lungs with crap. Thanks for sitting next to me in classes and smoking without a care in the world while fellow non-smokers and I suffer from the stench you create.

Thank you for putting cigarettes out on the floors or anywhere on campus you feel like, it does so much for the school. Thanks for blowing smoke in my face when your talking to me. (Can't you see my head is turned?) Thanks for being outside while I'm out running (or walking) on the street and have to hold my breath when I go by you. Thanks for smoking in the elevator while I'm trying to breathe (and no that little fan doesn't help) Thank you for smoking in my car, smelling it up and again jeopardizing my health - (and no that ¼ inch crack opening in the window isn't helping much either. Thanks for smelling up my house, dirtying ash trays that can be smelled from any room in the house. Thanks for being at parties, dance halls, stores, classrooms, theatres, everywhere I go!

Why do you do it? Are you uneducated or are you just plain rude. Think of what you are doing. Your setting fire to some white piece of paper stuffed with leaves, inhaling the smoke it makes, and then you say it tastes good. If so why did it take you so long to build up resistance to it as a kid? Why are you always chewing gum or sucking life savers? Isn't it to get that crappy taste out of your mouth.

Think back to why you started to smoke. It's a big social thing. Either your parents smoked or your peers did. There was something glamorous about having smoke come out of your mouth, right? Or maybe your boy friend or girl friend smoked and then you started it. Nothing is more sickening then a couple smoking the same kind of cigarette and always saying "can I have one of your cigarettes dear, or light me a cigarette dear." They look like a ridiculous cigarette advertismnt.

If you smoke for taste, then do it alone. Have a smoking closet where you can really get into the smoke. Make sure it's a small closet and has a mirror in it. This way you can hold the cigarette different ways, watch the smoke come out of your mouth, make those absurd rings, and have a blast. At least you won't be bothering anybody. If thats not enough get a group of smokers together and go to the local incinerators and inhale the smoke it makes. It should really help that "smokers cough" that young smokers try to acquire. Kids are actually proud when they start to cough like a "big" smoker.

The only thing more ridiculous than cigarette smokers themselves are the advertisements for cigarettes. Take the nature scenes for example. Way out in the country beyond civilization by a beautiful stream there is a guy and a girl (beautiful of course) smoking some kind of spring time cigarette (how absurd). What they don't show is the girl throwing her butt into the stream and the guy throwing his in the forest start-

ing a forest fire. How they can tie cigarette smoking in with nature I'll never know. Parliaments got this advertisement with a guy and his husky (dog) and it says underneath it "Big Lew Hinton was a husky fellow whose cigarette holder gave him taste as clean as the driven snow." How about some of the other crazy advertisements. "Why Viceroy? Because I'd never smoke a boring cigarette." I wonder what that cigarette does to amuse that guy. L&M the proud smoke. Winstons new thing is having some big goon just standing there saying, "I like the box." What attracts everybody to Marlboro's? That's the cigarette you've got to smoke when your in high school and college. If somethings not done, the United States is going to be one big Marlboro country. The horses in those advertisements must go crazy with those Marlboro cowboys blowing smoke all over their heads.

Advertisements try to show people who smoke as being sexy. I guess thats good if your idea of a sexy women is a nicotine mouthed girl with yellow hands, polluted hair and smelly clothes. You could marry her and she could smoke in bed (like in the movies). She can have skinny babies, blow smoke in their faces, drop ashes on their heads and hopefully raise them to be smokers just like yourself.



## “I’ll do it for a book”

by Lydia Harrington

Mom said to me, "Lydia." She said, "Lydia (she always says it twice) You absolutely just must pay the insurance bill on that automobile (she always calls it 'that automobile') or Daddy (she always calls my father 'Daddy') will absolutely tan your can!"

"Yup", is all that I garbled back as I guzzled down my glass of Bing Crosby and raced out the door. I had been saving the pennies, nickels and dimes, that seem to always wander to the bottom of my pocketbook, in an empty quart bottle of Cherry Brandy for nine months; so I felt assured that I could meet the insurance payment and not have to peddle my body on Water Street or do anything drastic.

I still felt secure in this belief and almost even happy as I ambled into my 8 o'clock psych class in the Behavioral Science building at 8:25. (I can never seem to find a parking place closer than DeMoulas. Quickly my

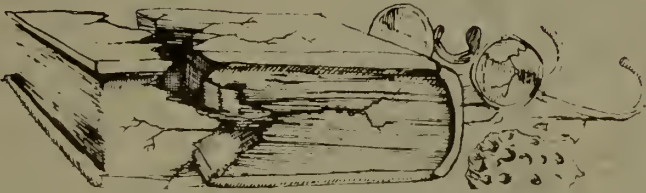
soaring bliss was shot out of the air as the teacher, the lean and lethal type, blurted out, "You will require the following books to complement this course study. They are - EGOCENTRICISM IN THE SLOTH. Harcourt & Brace, \$13.95; BABY PICTURES of JEAN PIAGET, harper & Row \$11.45; THE SALT TALKS AND THEIR AFFECT ON THE NUCLEAR FAMILY, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, \$9.99; and FREUDIAN SLIPS AND PLAYTEX PANTY GIRDLES, Random house, \$14.49.

I had totally forgotten that I had to buy books for the second semester. I shouldn't say books; it was more like a whole library. The entire shabang soaked me for, not only my bottle of Cherry Brandy, but also my sister's half gallon of Sloe Gin, and my cousin's jug of Spanada.

When the dust at last settled, I found myself wandering down Water Street. "I'll do it for a book", was all that I could think to say.

## F.S.C. in the dark

R. Hallion



Remember even though 12 inches is one foot, it costs less for a ruler case than a shoe.

If most of the people in the world are right-handed how come the flusher is on the left side of the toilet.

Answer to above: so you can flush sitting down.

If I put all the time I spent smoking pot into reverse psychology, I might be able to talk backwards now.

If someone would invent see through

winter jackets, maybe it would stop girls from gaining weight in the colder months.

No matter what Scrooge says of Christmas, he can't say Thanksgiving is for the birds.

Speaking of birds, be careful, VD is on the rise again.

Why does the glue on an envelope barely stick, and the glue holding a milk carton closed needs dynamite to open?

What ever happened to the good old days when you could hang a newspaper editor?

## Intestinal Cramps

Why do a faithful few, who receive no money, no credits, and certainly no glory, toil so fastidiously to produce the Rhetoric? Don't look to me for the answer for I don't know it. I'm just very grateful. But we of the Rhetoric staff, are looking to you for some answers. You can help us make the Rhetoric a better newspaper.

I believe that the Rhetoric is not awful. I realize that it could certainly be a whale of a lot better. I would appreciate receiving some positive criticism that might be beneficial to the newspaper's improvement. For too long there has existed an atmosphere of useless complaining. People seem to only stop into the Rhetoric office to criticize and condemn or maybe to spill the blood of a member of the staff. By the same token, we on the staff, seem to be always lamenting over the lack of available funds and the paltry student support. It is time to knock off all of that childish bickering and corrosive negativism and get down to the serious business of

improving our school newspaper.

The best way I know for achieving that improvement is by finding out what you think of the Rhetoric and learning how you would like to see it change and grow. To accomplish this, please fill out the opinion sheet that is attached below.

In the past our opinion polls have not exactly flourished. Actually they have floundered miserably. If I were still allowed to lament over paltry student support I would add that this indifference reflects the vast apathetic virus that afflicts our beloved Fitchburg State, but since I so ardently denounced the use of corrosive negativism earlier in this article; I will refrain from saying that.

Please sacrifice a few minutes to honestly respond. I would certainly appreciate it and I will consider your opinions.

(After filling out the sheet, tear it from the page, address it to the Rhetoric and drop it in the on-campus mail slot in the mail room of the campus center. Thank you.

1. In general, what do you think of the Rhetoric?

2. What aspects or features of the Rhetoric do you enjoy?

3. What aspects or features of the Rhetoric do you dislike?

4. How can we improve the Rhetoric?

5. How does the Rhetoric compare with other school newspapers you have seen?

6. Do you enjoy the Rhetoric?



# Everything you always wanted to know about lobbying - but didn't ask

Lobbying is one of the most effective means of gaining organized political influence; today's lobbyists are the backbone behind the machinery of many powerful groups. The National Student Association (NSA) maintains an impressive and functional lobbying organization whose members work full-time near the seat of political power in order to further the interests of the mass membership and provide a continuity of effort for the issues at hand.

The traditional view of lobbying is that of the lobbyist scurrying thru the corridors of Capitol Hill hunting down congressmen and senators, bending their arms and ears to a particular issue and the interest of their organization in re to that issue. Promises and threats and a handshake and matters of great import would be decided long before they reached the senate floor. Perhaps this distorted view was never very realistic, but present day lobbying is quite far removed from this image. The lobby organization is now much more the advocate, the research service for politicians who want and need background information on a bill before making a decision. To establish credibility, therefore, a lobby must maintain a reputation for furnishing accurate, objective information, and thus will be sought after by congressmen rather than visa versa. This service, of course, is provided at a price; the congressmen availing themselves of it will be predisposed to consider the interests of the lobby group. The competition exists, then, in forming an organization that is efficient, and that organization that becomes the most sought after will probably gain the most power.

The lobbyist is a paid professional, working for an organization in the capacity of information gatherer, mediator, and liaison man between his organization and the men on the hill. Bill Clayman, NSA lobbyist in Washington, D.C. recently spoke about his role at a Communications conference sponsored by Bridgewater State College and attended by representatives from several area state colleges. Clayman feels that his is an essential function, and stressed the importance of the continuity provided by such full-time employees as himself in lobby positions. One of the weaknesses, he pointed out, of a student interest group, is that its members are transient; they graduate and pass the torch - often long before an issue is settled; then new people must familiarize themselves with the situation and the procedures involved in getting the job done. With a student lobby organization on the job, men and women in positions like Bill Clayman's are involved on a full-time basis with the affairs of student concerns; their faces are familiar to legislators, their reputations for reliability in the information they provide makes them valuable and a significant influence upon those who are already predisposed to the cause, and these individuals can, in turn, present stronger cases when the bills come up.

Organization is an all-important factor in a lobby operation; involving time, planning, and leadership. Obviously, logic or being "in the right" is not enough in attempting to win support for one's cause; but with new campaign laws forbidding large contributions to ensure support, lobbies have more leverage than ever, and well-organized lobby can do much to use this leverage to the best advantage of its mass membership.

Clayman spoke of the student vote, not yet recognized as a very effective means of reform for the student faction, and he pointed out that since its inception no significant changes have resulted. Thus the NSA lobby represents student interests most effectively thus far.

Again, Clayman stressed the primary function of the lobby organization as communication; identifying bills and what these bills mean to the needs of the organization. He also spends much time identifying voting patterns and publishing documentary information. As always, there are many areas of concern on any campus and in any student group; student rights, curriculum changes, student government autonomy, student participation in policy setting, hiring and firing of professors, etc., but just as obviously there is not the time nor manpower to research and defend all causes at once, nor would each be equally successful, and thus decisions must be made as to which issues will be pursued when. Efforts must be concentrated to be effective, and the areas of effort must be limited. Many factors must be taken into consideration here; putting resources into "winnable" legislation, choosing those issues proving "easy victory" for beginning efforts, and moving into creating a mood of confidence in order to break new and perhaps more controversial issues thru later on.

The state of California has one of the oldest and most effective student lobbies in this country; recently this organization obtained an additional state allocation of \$1,000.00 per student per year. It is an important function of the lobby to identify who's who in such decision making, and to be effectively organized to go after this person with prompt and correct information as well as armed with effective persuasive propaganda. This smooth running efficacy is responsible, says Clayman, for the California student lobby being recognized as among the top ten in the United States. Some other powerful and successful lobbies are Bank of America and some of the large oil companies; thus to have a student organization rated among such rich and powerful ones is quite an accolade to the ingenuity and efficiency of the California student lobby.

One effective guideline to maintain is obtaining "natural allies"; a lobby should strive to find groups that have similar interests; often groups like the AF of L CIO will be looking to create a "voting block" by aligning unorganized groups like students, and the latter group would thus obtain the power, legal advice, contacts, financial assistance, etc., that affiliation with a major organization like the former, giving in return the support of its voting numbers.

A lobbyist must always be informed; all available information must be read and understood and the successful lobbyist knows whom to approach about what, and when to do the approaching. Later, when certain goals have been achieved, the student organization may divorce itself from the grasp of the powerful group whose aid is no longer necessary.

For us (students) here in Massachusetts now, funding of state educational institutions is a major issue; Clayman feels that student interest groups must find support in common interest groups or individuals and notes that on this particular issue students would be well to align themselves with college administrators, who also desire additional funding for their schools. Other possible sources of support are in such efforts as coalition of interested schools, and thus powerful and viable groups can come of some initial effort and the result will be that each individual's contribution need not be great to obtain desired results. The advantages in coalition, for example, are especially great for smaller schools like FSC in that their allies would provide power in number, finances and available resources.

Continued: Pg. 18

## Voluntary Action Center reopens to place student volunteers

The three directors of the F.S.C. Campus Voluntary Action Center (VAC) kept themselves busy during the semester break making preparations for the reopening of the center on campus on February 2. You ask, "What is the Voluntary Action Center (V.A.C.)?" Well, its a campus organization which is dedicated to providing fulfilling, interesting, and desirous volunteer experiences for students as well as enriching the lives of the community's residents through assisting agencies by involving volunteers in their programs. V.A.C. works closely with approximately 50 local school agencies, organizations, and school systems and placed nearly 350 students in volunteer positions during the fall semester.

If you are interested or required to be involved in volunteer activities to attain practical (real-life) experience in a specific subject or interest area, then, "read on!" As of February 2, VAC will have a manned table in the lobby on the ground floor of the Campus Center. There will always be at least one VAC staff person at the table every Monday through Friday from 10-3 to assist students in finding relevant volunteer positions from VAC's numerous agency contacts and volunteer job description listings. The table operation will continue for approximately 1 month (Feb. 2 - Mar. 2) after which time interested individuals may contact the student directors through their office schedules posted in the new SGA office.

Volunteer work, especially in an area that is intriguing to one, can be both an extremely relevant learning experience (e.g application of theory to practical reality) and a lot of fun. However, if a volunteer position is not chosen with care and consideration it can be a total flop. We at VAC will do our best to insure a good volunteer experience to the students we place.



# The Stars By Nell

ARIES: (March 21-April 19) — Today is no day for decisions; wear what comes naturally, so what if your underwear doesn't match - your socks? Don't even try to make up your mind about your mother-in-law's birthday present - stick with the ten pound bag of monkey chow for now.

TAURUS: (April 20-May 20) — Finances are strained this week; so are prunes, apricots and smoked ham; we're all sympathetic about your lost teeth, your lost wallet, and anything else you lost - no matter how long ago it was.

GEMINI: (May 21-June 20) — People are difficult these days; they disagree at every turn. Even your favorite friend disagrees at that last one - whoever heard of turning at Anchorage to get to downtown Burbank? At any rate, don't give up just because they play hard to get, just step back one or two paces and ask 'em to play it again!

CANCER: (June 21-July 22) — Don't let promises fool you; look into that proposition before you bite - also warn the owner of the neck before you sink your teeth in - it's only courteous. And while you're looking into things, look into 2-B on your way down the hall - among other novelties, there are sheep and goats in there - and you should see their costumes!

LEO: (July 23-August 22) — Stay out of the way today; hide in a closet if you must - but stay out of the limelight. Tell the Tidy Bowl man you're only a house guest and he may show you a good time.

VIRGO: (August 23-September 22) — Keep your interest on one track for the next few days; diversions can only be upsetting; conversions are rare, cardioversion can be painful, and perversions are risky.

LIBRA: (September 23-October 22) — Put your mind at rest; all is calm and quiet for you. Put your fears in mothballs and relax. After all, you're a hunchback midget transvestite paraplegic with a learning disability and a hairlip - what ELSE could go wrong??

SCORPIO: (October 23-November 21) — Try to be an arbitrator; others will quarrel but you will remain sensible. Negotiations can be

frustrating, but hang in there. Sure, it's difficult to come between Haystack Calhoun and Kate Smith in a clinch, but if you persist, you'll overcome, and the rewards are numerous; consider that almost nobody has ever prevailed over Haystack, gotten that close to Kate Smith, and/or been exposed to THAT MUCH FLESH in such a small area (imagine the heady armpit odour!) and how could anybody resist sharing the stage with such "heavy" people, man?

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22-December 21) — Don't always try to excuse yourself; why apologize just because you arrived first at the revolving doors? Of course, it was a little impulsive of you to scream "Gang Bang in the Ladies Room" just to clear the place, and it was in questionable taste to offer the two ladies who remained a "Carte Blanche" pass to Kelley's All-Male Gym. However, you did get thru so all's well that so ends - right?

CAPRICORN: (December 22-January 19) — Your past is on your mind these days; (remember that interlude in the phone booth on 5th Avenue?). But don't let memories invade and destroy the present. After all, if you keep calling them all 'Jim' they get upset after awhile - not to mention the fact that yesterday is gone, and only today matters - who said that?

AQUARIUS: (January 20-February 18) — Learn to stay in your own corner; the world is, after all, very square, and once you learn the ropes you'll find that the bell always rings for you. Or how about - three bars of "Dixie", a corncob pipe and a busted Jim Beam bottle in the head? If any of this makes any sense to you there must be some mistake; please re-read and evaluate.

PISCES: (February 19-March 20) — Friends demand attention; your job is challenging and your social life blossoms; all your pimples are clearing up and you really think your excretions do not exude odor. Well - hold up, Mac, those friends want money, your job's on the line, and the blossoms of your social life are full of mealy bugs and spider mites - ya can't win, so forget it!

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# Student suicide stalks nation's campuses

If a person should ever feel a whole life of possibilities stretching before him, it is during his days as a college student. For many students, college days are a time of independence and freedom unlike any before or after, and the college degree, while no longer a promise of success, still means a good chance of it.

But every year, at least 250 students find college life or life in general so intolerable that they take their own lives. At least 750 others try. And the rate of student suicides, the second largest killer of students after accidents, has increased sharply during the past decade and a half.

One Colorado psychiatrist believes the suicide rate correlates with events on campus, and the quieter the campus is, the worse. "When the campus is quiet—people less involved in external causes—you become more introspective, more involved in taking a look at yourself," he explained.

Other psychologists and social workers find reasons for suicide which exist on every campus every day. The director of the Mental Health Center at Iowa State University blamed student suicides in part on the inherent loneliness of big campuses. "The university student population is a higher risk group (than average)," he said. "A large university can tend to be pretty impersonal. You can be isolated emotionally in the very

midst of it."

A doctor at the Harvard University Health Service noticed that students often become depressed throughout their last year of college because they haven't decided what they want to do after graduation. The same doctor also blamed modern society's approval of impulsive acts, the "buy now and pay later" mentality, for student suicides.

Phyllis Miller, a staff person at the Iowa State University counselling center, believes that suicidal tendencies become more pronounced at certain times of the year. "Depression winter quarter is epidemic," she said, "especially after Christmas until February."

And depression seems to hit the freshman class harder than others, Miller said, because of academic pressures. "They come here after having been at the top of their class, only to find out that everybody else is also class valedictorian and president of the student council. They find out they're just normal."

A spokeswoman for the Center for Studies of Suicide Prevention agrees that "identity is among the basic causes of suicide among college individuals. The student is often away from home for the first time, faces new and difficult academic challenges and is thrust into a social whirl he never experienced in high school," she explained.

The person who commits suicide is never readily identifiable beforehand. Statistically, more women try but more men succeed, college students are more likely to commit suicide than their non-college peers, and suicidal students usually get good grades but never feel quite secure about them. After that, there are only individual cases of marital or dating problems, loneliness, guilt because of college rebelliousness and the necessity to adjust to a whole new community.

To deal with potential student suicides, many communities and colleges have organized prevention centers with around-the-clock phone counsellors. But as Newsweek magazine pointed out, there has been no "demonstrable success anywhere in lowering the suicide rate." Most psychologists attribute this to the fact that people who have already decided to commit suicide would not call prevention centers.

But another explanation may be possible in light of a new attitude toward suicides. A counsellor at a suicide prevention center in Iowa said their policy was not "to talk people out of suicide. People have the right to life or non-life. If it helps them to have someone to talk to, then that's what we're here for."

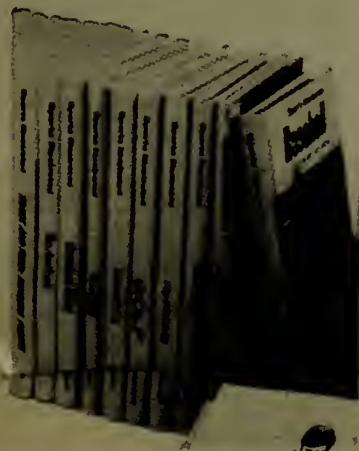
Suicide may be a special problem of college because it is often the first time students have to be realistic about their futures. "College is a ruthless gardener," a social worker at



UCLA said. "When a student realizes that his dreams may not bear fruit, that he can't be a great writer, lawyer, doctor or accomplish great social change, then there is a sudden sense of failure, a stressful fear of disappointing one's parents."

by Cynthia Crossen

## Textbook prices: another addition



Standing in the aisles of college bookstores across the country are hundreds of students groaning and sighing as they peek cautiously at the price on the inside cover of the assigned textbook. Their heads swim as they silently tally up the bill for this semester's required books.

Next semester will be worse if book prices

continue to rise as they have steadily for the past ten years. Prices for publishing materials have fallen victim to inflation and the financially-troubled textbook industry is passing those increases on to its captive audience -- students.

The textbook is still the primary teaching tool in the majority of undergraduate classes. And college students at most school stores pay exactly what the publishers have suggested. Trying to undercut the competing bookstores in the area would result in a serious loss to the bookstore since the profit margin on textbooks is so low, according to the manager of a University of Minnesota bookstore.

"We make far less than one percent profit," Jim Simons, manager of the bookstore at Oregon College of Education. Simons also said that many bookstores are not getting enough to cover the cost of the books, shipping and handling. To cover the costs, some college bookstores are charging students for the freight cost as well as the actual cost of the textbooks.

According to Simons, textbook prices have not risen as drastically this year as they have in the past few years. "However, hard-cover \$7.95 and \$8.95 books might be a thing of the

past," he said.

Actually, textbook prices rose 3% more than the consumer index in 1974. Publishers blamed the rising prices on increasing costs of paper, ink, binding material, labor, loans and distribution. Today the average price of a hardcover book is about \$13.25, a college librarian estimated.

Publishers are also spending more money producing textbooks because they are trying to recruit more big-name professors to write the newest texts. Then it takes the busy professor four to six years to produce it. By the time the student is buying the book, it is already dated and a new edition is in the works.

At most bookstores, an out-dated edition is for nothing. Books which have been used for one quarter or semester and have not been reordered by another professor for the next year are worth almost nothing. The manager of the Stephen Austin University in Texas, pointed out that a book which retailed for \$9.75 would be worth 25 cents to the wholesaler if the book was no longer needed for a class at that school.

If a book is going to be used again for the next semester, students may be able to buy the textbook used. Usually at 75% of its

original price. But with the heavier use of paperback texts, used books are becoming more scarce. Some book dealers believe paperbacks are the student's worse buy.

"There's very little price difference between paperback and hardback books in certain instances," one said. "Hardback books are also more durable than paperback books and attain a higher resale value."

Not all bookstores seem to be struggling with low prices and high costs, however. The "non-profit" bookstore at Western Washington State College has accumulated a surplus of \$297,000 in the past few years. The bookstore gives discounts on many items but continues to show a profit. Many bookstores make their biggest profits on non-book items such as pocket calculators, clothing and supplies.

At St. Louis University, two students have set up an alternative to the used book business on campus. The women have been organizing a book co-op which will accept used books from students and sell them for the amount the owner is asking. The owner will receive all the money collected for the sale of the books and will get the books back if they are not sold.

## Eat it at our caf



## Help prevent budget cuts

by Bernard J. Schultz III and Alison Mitchell

The intention of this student survey is to provide for concrete evidence pertaining to why Fitchburg State College's Budget should not be further cut in the near future. In defense of our budget which was sliced nine per cent the last fiscal year, it is our firm objective to avoid such an occurrence befalling this campus again. Please fill the survey out and return it to the S.G.A. office.

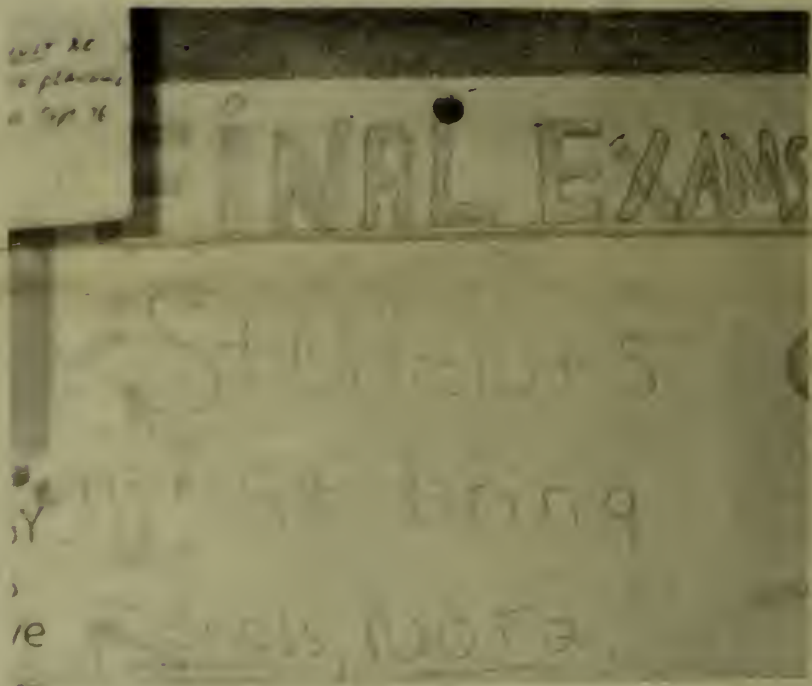
Please Check One:

1. Freshman— Sophomore— Junior— Senior—
2. Commuter— Dorm—
3. Single— Married— Separated— Divorced—
4. Age Bracket:  
22 and under— 23 to 25— 26 to 35— 36 to 45— 46 to 55— over 55—
5. Male— Female—
6. Did your parents graduate from College?  
Both— One— Neither—
7. Did any of your grandparents graduate from college? Yes— No—
8. Do you receive any financial aid? Yes— No—
- 8 a. What kind? Loan, Scholarship, Veterans Benefits etc.
- 8b. How much semesterially assistance do you receive?  
under \$100— \$101 to \$200— \$201 to \$400— \$401 to \$600—  
\$601 to \$800— \$801 to \$1000—
9. Are you on the work study program at F.S.C. Yes— No—
- 9a. If so, how many hours a week?
10. Are you employed other than F.S.C. Yes— No—
- 10a. If so, how many hours a week?
11. Do you belong to any organization on campus? Yes— No—
- 11a. If so, what?
12. Do you belong to any community organization outside of F.S.C.? Yes— No—
- 12 a. If so, what?
13. Are you a volunteer with any community services? Yes— No—
- 13 a. If so, with what?
14. Do you do a brunt of your shopping in the Montachusett Area?
- 14 a. If so, how much do you spend weekly for your essentials such as food, clothing, and so on?
15. Do you utilize any area health services? If so how much do you spend for these services during the school year?
16. Do you participate in the Food Stamp Program? If so, what is your allowance of Food Stamps?
17. Would you consider your parents wealthy, middle class, working class, or poverty-stricken?
18. Do your parents often send you lump sums of money for expenses during the school year? How much money yearly?
19. Do you plan to stay in this area for employment upon graduation? If not where are you going to work after graduation?
20. Explain briefly; what is your purpose for attending Fitchburg State College?





# “Long live



Long live the wee  
My narrow vegeto  
That foret rack, th  
All things unholy.  
The ugly of the u  
The rough, the u  
That keep the spi  
With these I mat  
And earn the righ  
Hope, love, creat  
These shape the c







# *the weeds”*

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can to toil;  
red h  
se.

and the wild  
defiled.  
little wit  
stand or sit,  
drink and die;  
re that is I.

Theodore Roethke









More of Poet's Corner

'Untitled'

Untitled misery - creeping in  
lurking insidiously outside  
of the warmest interludes  
enveloping my everything

I know you are there  
but I am what I am  
and your arms can't help  
They cannot reach my soul

My soul that absorbs it  
The darkness & the cold  
and holds it in loneliness  
shutting out your face

I still have not named it  
this fiend with no face  
perhaps I fear to call it  
by a name & make it real

I stand in the daylight  
yet dwell in silent night-time  
within the secret of myself  
and wait for an ending

- An end to all the games  
an end to foolish fantasy  
and all the senseless striving  
of a cripple in a cage

Perhaps you are real  
this you offer may be love  
But somehow it is wanting  
and I am empty beside you

Closer - closer hold me  
Don't leave me alone tonite  
and in the cruel and quiet morning  
the truth shall wake us both.

Nell

40 - Love

middle  
couple  
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playing  
nis  
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ends  
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home  
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still  
be  
them

Roger McGough

The Search

Oh, the eternal vanity  
of the quiet self  
pacing behind banalities  
screeching in heavy chains

Scratching within the tomb  
that usher, above, might hear  
and feel the terror  
of a tortured soul

Bumping angrily in darkness  
into hated wailing walls  
Foolish bruises on the soft shell  
of a shapeless swell within

Small sounds of mingled sort  
of woe without a label  
of joy without excuse  
and an excess of energy

The search is futile  
the tomb is sealed shut  
the shroud shall suffocate  
while the walls crumble without

And forever the ghost walks  
waltzing apallingly arrogant  
amid vacant multitudes  
a perennial banshee wails

Mary Ellen Walsh

The actress

To reach out in darkness  
afraid of the light  
groping toward nothing  
confused by the play  
alone on the stage  
and distrustful of all  
the other actors  
I stand spotlighted  
by the brief moment  
that is my moment  
among all others  
that have ever been  
and await my cue  
to be whispered  
from offstage shadows  
and help me go on  
with the inane dialogue  
beneath my painted smile  
eyes black with kohl  
and blurred by dreams  
standing on clay feet  
that itch and bleed  
shuffling beneath me  
ready to run away  
unknowing where to go  
uncaring what I will find  
I dart away now  
thru the startled crowd  
and out into the night

Mary Ellen Walsh



Shades of Scarlet Conquering

Out of the flames like Catholic saints  
Comes Scarlet and her deep complaint  
Mimicking tenderness she sees  
in sentimental movies  
A celluloid rider comes to town  
Cinematic lovers sway  
Plantations and sweeping ballroom gowns  
Take her breath away

Out in the wind in crinolines  
Chasing the ghosts of Gable and Flynn  
Through stand-in boys and extra players  
magnolias hopeful in her auburn hair  
She comes from a school of southern charm  
She likes to have things her way  
Any man in the world holding out his arm  
Would soon be made to pay

Friends have told her not so proud  
Neighbors trying to sleep and yelling "not so  
loud"

Lovers in anger "Block of Ice"  
Harder and harder just to be nice  
Given in the night to dark dreams  
From the dark things she feels  
She covers her eyes in the X-rated scenes  
Running from the reels

Beauty and madness to be praised  
It is not easy to be brave  
To walk around in so much need  
To carry the weight of all that greed  
Dressed in stolen clothes she stands  
Cast iron and frail  
With her impossibly gentle hands  
And her blood-red fingernails

Out of the fire and still smouldering  
She says "A woman must have everything"  
Shades of Scarlet conquering  
She says "A woman must have everything"

Joni Mitchell  
From "The Hissing of Summer Lawns"

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# Louise shouts



by Louise Shoute

"Yesterday is but the day before the day before tomorrow. It calls to us as the graceful voices of the sirens beckoned Odessus; and if we listen too intently, we shall crash upon the jagged rocks of perished memories and dump our guts all over the place." — Charles "Sonny" Liston.

Alas, I have commenced my final semester at Fitchburg State. As I reflect upon these past seven semesters, tiny teardrops pool in the corners of my saddened eyes and stream down the smooth surface of my tender cheeks. I so desperately try to halt their flow. They are soaking my blouse.

Oh the good dear memories I have collected while plodding along that difficult path to maturity. Those sweet, sweet memories are enclosed in the picture book of my mind. Go with me now as I bathe in reverie and recollect the sunshine and the raindrops of my seven so sweet and satisfying semesters. Go with me now as I present my Top Ten

memories from Fitchburg State.

10. September 15, 1972 — My First All-College Party at Saima Park.

I went with my roommate Gale Warning. I did not know what to expect. I was very nervous. As the hungry hunting eyes of the handsome gentlemen scanned my terrain, waves of lusting want seized control of me. I knew then that I was ready to join the college scene. I got shit-faced on warm beer, danced by myself in the corner, and cried on my roommate Gale's shoulder.

9. September to December, 1972 — My First Semester in A Girl's Dormitory.

The adjustment was a difficult one, indeed. Accepting the habits and life-styles of the many other girls was a wicked transition for me; but I soon grew to love and cherish the girls in my suite like sisters. We cried together, laughed together, sang together, studied together, and got drunk and high together. We learned about truth, reality, dignity, and responsibility together. Together we evolved into women.

The next January I moved into an apartment on North Street for the petty squabbles, bitchy bickering, and hateful back-stabbing had become super intolerable.

8. November 17, 1973 — I Lost My Virginity.

7. October 8 - 15, 1973 — Pledging for a Sorority.

I wanted, with all my heart, to be a sister in the ——— society. (I won't mention that group of girls for fear there might be bodily harm directed towards me). That week of pledging was a wicked good time. The pledging stunts were rigorous and demanding but they were very fair and absolutely necessary in order to become a good sister. We had to drink a gallon of Janitor in the Drum, run naked through the Newman Center, receive a hickey from a domestic animal, sing Handel's Messiah in the quad, memorize the Zurich telephone directory, eat a pin cushion, and re-enact the defeat of the Spanish Armada in the Nashua River. All of these trials and tribulations helped me to grasp a better understanding of what it meant to be a sister.

Unfortunately, I failed in my quest. On the final night of pledging to become a sister in the ——— society, we had to sacrifice a member of our immediate family to the spirit of the sisterhood. I could not complete this requirement; for my family, the Shoutes, was away visiting Uncle John in Sandusky, Ohio.

6. November 22, 1973 — I Found My Virginity.

After a scrutinizing, week-long search, I discovered it in Room 308 of Herlihy Hall. It was glad to see me.

5. December 2, 1973 — Sleeping on the Steps of the Behavioral Science Building in Order to be First to Register.

It was wicked cold that evening; the temperature fell all the way down to 7 below. I had to get my courses though, or I would die. I almost died anyways. During that night I caught a vicious cold and I broke up with my boyfriend, Boyd "Hunk" Haul. I lit him on fire in an attempt to keep myself from contracting frostbite.

The next morning I was second in line to register. Unfortunately the girls in front of me closed out two of my courses.

4. February 19, 1974 — I Fell Asleep on a Mohawk Jacket.

3. September to November, 1975 — Working as a Student Activist Attempting to Urge the Mass. Legislature Not to Cut the F.S.C. Budget.

I donned my "I Remember Kent State" sweatshirt and started to spit at guys I knew in the National Guard. Oh how I became involved in the student rights movement!

I even told my father to dry up and blow away when he asked me how I was doing at school. "We are the disciples of tomorrow," I triumphantly shouted at him. "We shall overcome the savage chaos that your generation has created. The energy we bring our endeavors will light our country. The glow from that fire can truly light the world!"

He calmly retorted with, "Shut up girl or I shall fail to come up with the funds for your second semester tuition."

Nonchalantly, I dropped out of the movement.

2. December 2, 1974 — My Heart to Heart Summit Conference with Dean Louise Keenan.

The kindly dean of women summoned me to engage in a serious discussion concerning the path of my future. She cancelled all of her previously scheduled meetings from her busy calendar for that day to allow for our meaningful "meeting of minds."

I never showed up.

1. February 14, 1975 — Winter Carnival.

I went with a long-time plutonic pal, Ted Kubaski. To be perfectly honest I didn't really enjoy myself. In fact, I experienced a horrible evening. But so did about 88% of the people there. The why is this my number 1 memory, you may well ask? Well, Ol' Teddy boy threatened to completely ruin my sex life if I didn't place that night high on my list. He was cleaning his bazooka at the time so let me add that - Yes, Ted, I had a wonderful evening and you were the perfect gentleman, even though you did try to eat my panties.

## In praise of the silent majority



By Felicia Morningstar

The ecstasy I feel in writing this accolade to human intellect and ability can scarce be contained; the page threatens to scorch beneath my heated hand; the pen fairly leaps in anticipation as it labors to mold words about the tender feelings my punctual peers have awakened in my soul. What event of momentous proportions has initiated this riotous rush of rhetoric? Let me enlighten you as I share the joy that the realization of a dream can bring.

When first I came to these halls I was fearful; new faces, new places; the confusion of orientation was upon me. As I aimlessly wandered thru mazes of corridors, tunnels and buildings I became more and more mired in my own directionless void. How I longed for a kind word...a friendly face. Thus I take this opportunity to thank the friendly face on page 36 of my Psych text...just for being there! It is always a rewarding experience to reach out and touch a responding human being, and I needed the warmth of a kindred soul. In my frustration I reached out and touched the turnstyle in the book store; its cold metallic returning smack to my soloplexis brought me back to reality: Thanks, I needed that!

I joined the newspaper; ah, the sweet succor of involvement; the excitement of a busy, bustling newspaper office; the clatter of typewriters in the newsroom, the smoke, the stimulating conversation, phones ringing, people rushing in and out. Where is all this,

you ask? Well, I must admit that things are slightly different here. As a matter of fact the bustle is more like a shuffle, the typewriter is absent; there is occasionally some smoke; it wafts into the office from places above the ground. But conversation...ah...there we have it. Yes, indeed, our esteemed editor, Staunch Walkonit has the art of conversation down to a science. On any given day a lonesome stranger can wander into the Rhetoric office; probably from some other pleasantly decorated basement room, and have a brilliant discourse with any number of stimulating objects...inanimate objects, of course. Just the other day I solved many pressing problems in a very heavy heart-to-heart with the water pipe. On occasion, one might be fortunate enough to chance upon old Staunch, nestled uncomfortably behind the desk muching paper, and he is always more than glad to launch into some important matter or another and offer some very profound insights into the nature of life. Of course, first you must insert a quarter in his back, shake his arms and holler "Wake up Grandfather" in chorus with the entire janitorial staff, but once you have succeeded in prying open those red-rimmed eyes, and propping them with rose-colored toothpicks, the pearls of wisdom that will spill from Staunch's lips is well worth the effort. The last time I went thru this labor of love I was rewarded by a grunt (delivered in dialect) and a resonant rendition of "In Flanders Fields". It was very moving, and soon had me moving for the door. As I turned to say goodbye, I was amazed to see Mr. Walkonit

remove those famous pearls of wisdom and place them in a cup of Dentu-clean.

Perhaps the best of all possible things happened when I initiated an anti-apathy campaign to recruit reporters for our journalistic efforts here. I placed large placards in strategic places around campus announcing the splendid opportunity now open to budding Mark Twains and Art Buchwalds, carefully enumerating the many positive aspects of involvement and listing the benefits to be derived from commitment to the school paper. What are they, you ask? Er...ah...such a complicated question must be discussed at another time and in another place. At any rate, we got far more response to an ad for cheerteading practice, printed on a kleenex, in arabic, and tossed into the quadrangle on a windy day in the rain.

Now, however, the articles are literally pouring in; we get at least 2,000 "personals" which, while much appreciated as literary efforts, and valiant attempts at communication, are unfortunately not comprehensible to most readers. They are all clear, concise and coherent, of course, and one finds it difficult to understand what there is about a message such as "Baa baa, Boa constrictor, your coils turn me on. Signed Piglet" or "Flat top, your five-fingered discount catalog is in, please pick up at the hollow tree. Signed Anonymous." that is incomprehensible. At any rate, its encouraging to receive these contributions and the volume of same has been such that we may one day print eight pages of "Personals"...think about that!

Then, of course, there are the abstract articles, carefully chicken scratched on lovely yellow onion skin, dragged thru FSC's 45 million puddles, and dutifully faded, folded, bent and mutilated before arriving in crumpled, crinkled glory in wet and glistening balls to sit in state on the desk of the Rhetoric office. Along with these treasures sometimes come the poisoned pen poetry that graces our "Poet's Corner", untitled, unsigned, and as illegible as only a true poet could manage, and it is delightful to read such memorable verse as:

"What is love, I want to know  
and how can each of us find it

We are all afraid to love each other  
but we'd like it if we'd only try some"

Really, now, doesn't that bring tears to your eyes? I cry every time I read it, and even harder do I cry when I print it.

Most of all, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have been kind enough to make suggestions for the betterment of our school newspaper. Comments such as "Your paper eats..." are

most enlightening! Still more constructive are such critiques as "You're not aware; not political...you don't get into the issues." Aha, quite so...and we politely ask, "What issues?" to which query we receive a confused look and a scratch of the head. We do appreciate the criticism, and are yet working on an interpretation of the critic's eloquent body language. It is truly wonderful, too, to have loyal and steadfast reporters combing the campus for scoops, typing far into the night to meet the deadlines, and consistently turning in legible articulate copy, worthy of the finest student publication. Only last week, I assigned my cub reporter, Juicy Gossip, to cover the Ladies Auxiliary to the absent faculty convention, and she came back three days later with a brilliant interview conducted with its president, Miss Gump, which was seventeen pages long, neatly pencilled in German and only repeating itself on every other line. I was truly grateful that it took me only four hours to rewrite the article, trim it down to two pages, edit four million errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar and submit it late.

Speaking of deadlines, I extend the fickle finger to all those diligent drudges who slaved over promised articles for a whole semester and are so devoted to perfection that I still do not have them, and to those who are honest and brave enough to come to me on deadline day and risk my wrath at their incomplete or nonexistent assignments. Then, there are the "too busys" whose tight schedules of lunch, coffee break, and two very heavy classes per week prevent them from devoting their time to the Rhetoric, as they would so dearly love to do.

I am a gentle, non-violent soul; I am quite content to quietly rock the cradle of apathy in which the campus slumbers. Far be it from me to suggest that some bearded soap box criers might do well to get behind, beneath or inside their student newspaper. And I would be the last person on this green earth to complain about such minor inconveniences as nophone nostaff norecognition noequipment nocooperation notime nofacilities nohelp dammit no money...aaarrrrghh!!

Enough, dear readers; I trust that my message is as clear as coagulated milk and honey, and I challenge any and all of you to respond to any and all of me in regard to anything I have or have not said. One warning, however, if you intend to come to me with helpful hints I welcome you with open arms (not mine, of course) but if you come armed with criticism...wear shinguards and a crash helmet; my dog hates to see me cry.



# SPORTS

## Say buddy, can you spare a dime?



"We desperately need money. Without it the future of our entire sports program is in jeopardy."--Dr. Thomas Battinelli

The position as athletic director at Fitchburg State is neither prestigious nor renowned. Off the top of my head I can recall only two positions that may perhaps be less resplendent. They are the health inspector for the city of Calcutta and the head loncho fo the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Dr. Thomas Battinelli is the brave soul who gallantly serves Fitchburg in that most languorous role as athletic director, or A.D. He does not operate from a luscious plush office with a snow-white shag carpet, futuristic furniture and abstract sculptures of Jim Thorpe and Roger Banniser. Instead, his office reminds one of an oversized Skinner Box. One would feel most at ease eating a cheese sandwich from a brown bag atop his desk. Dr. Battinelli is the athletic director of Fitchburg State and it is safe to say there are very few people who envy him, for in these troubled times Dr. Battinelli's job is grueling and seemingly thankless.

### ATHLETIC FEE INCREASE

The sports program at Fitchburg is indeed in a troubled and desperately declining state. The budget for the entire program is an paltry and insufficient \$76,700. By contrast, Paul "Bear" Bryant, head football coach of the Alabama Crimson Tide, earns a salary of well over \$100,000 per year. Ohio State University spends twice that on their marching band alone. UCLA allocates almost that much for birth control pills for their cheerleaders. Yet the entire F.S.C. sprots program is forced to l imp along on a meager \$76,700. Soon it may require a wheelchair.

Dr. Battinelli contends that unless a considerable package of money falls from the heavens, and quite soon, the sports programs at F.S.S. will be forced to suffer even greater cutbacks and hardships. "Our programs are already operating at rock bottom," added Battinelli hopes to procure those necessary funds by the raising of the athletic fee, which is presently a mandatory \$25, to \$35. "We've

got the lowest athletic fee in the entire state college system", Battanelli announced. "The range for the other schools is anywhere from \$35 to \$65 a year." Dr. Battanelli is optimistic about the chances for the passage of the proposed fee increase for he believes the students will recognize that the F.S.C. sports program will be unable to survive without it. "Ultimately the proposal is going to face some form of a student referendum. The students definitely have the right to vote on the issue," Battanelli continued. "I hope the students understand that without the money the sports program may not be able to survive beyond the next two or three years."

The battlefield is just about set for a future funding war. In a Rhetoric survey of last March 86% of the students polled favored a healthy varsity sports program. On the other hand, Fitchburg State students are known for going hog-wild at even the slightest mention of another fee increase.

The outcome of the proposed athletic fee increase may well decide the future of varsity sports at Fitchburg State.

## On track with winter track

The winter track season is in full swing spite the hindrance of semester break, element weather, and poor facilities (the ck team uses the Fitchburg Armory for the lk of the workouts). These factors are und to discourage an athlete, but not Jim eehan's band of merry men. The spirit and getherness of this group of young mpetitors radiates an inextinguishable w. They know they are winners, as proven consecutive undefeated seasons ( spring ck and cross country '75).

So far the competition has been stiff. In the rmont Invitational at the University of rmont, the Falcons performed well in the alifying heats against runners of equal ility. Brian McGee especially ran well in e 1000. Fitchburg unfortunately was just t-classed by the likes of the Canadian ympic Team, University of Detroit, laware, Seton Hall, Howard University, d Dartmouth. These Christmas relays eember 19-20) were not disappointing eriences. It's very interesting to compete h high caliber athletes. The situation was milar later at Dartmouth for the U.S. track d field relays. The competition there was e the indoor nationals. Top billing went to lanova, Dartmouth, BU, Penn State, Seton ll, and St. John's. Lowell University also eared. The highlight for Fitchburg was n White, who set a new record for this ool by throwing the 35 pound weight 44' ' (6 feet past the old record). John is a ential candidate for the Nationals in the ing. Next the Falcons met with Bentley, well, Worcester, and Maine Maritime. This ounter produced another record for chburg. Jim Corrao broke the old outdoor ord in the log jump with a 41'9" leap. chburg beat Maine Maritime (February 7) n exciting meet, 61-52. This was the first et for the newest addition to the fleet on Club. Introducing Rick Brown

for a semester. Rick was No. 1 in the state last year as a low hurdler from Haverhill. Then he captured the distinction of being No. 2 in New England. Rick is a very strong, versatile competitor. He does the pole vault, hurdles, high jump, and sprints. His contributions will certainly increase the depth of the club. Against MMA Brownie won the 50 yd. high hurdles (7.1), tied Glen Govey in the polevault for first (10 ft. 6 in.), placed second in the high jump (5 ft. 10 in.), and just nipped Jeff Kaitschuck for second in the 300-yard dash (35.2 seconds).

The other highlights for FSC were Jim Corrao's first in the triple jump (39 ft. 6¾ in.), a first in the mile by Rich McDonald 4.40, third to Al Bennet 4.44, second and third to Don Rist and Jim Silverio in the 600 a sweep of the 1000--Brian McGee first, Bob Gauthier and Bill Andrews followed. The Falcons also swept the 2 mile. Mike Malloy won with a 10.24, McDonald took second and Bob Dennis third. Gauthier, Bennet, McGee and Andrews won the 2 mile relay and iced a victory for Fitchburg State.

The outlook is increasingly promising as the season advances. A very important characteristic of this team again is the spirit. The running attack and the field events coordinate well.

This factor is critical in offsetting weak spots.

Indoor track is the key to preparation for the outdoor season. A team must train all year to be able to compete, and these people do just that and more. Not only do they manifest a unique combination of team spirit, confidence, and desire under superior coaching, the overall team cumulative average last semester was an outstanding 3.2. That is the initiative of the student athlete.

by Rick Callant



John White heaves a shot.

## Sheehan's boys

Bill Andrews  
John White  
Al Bennet  
Paul Leone  
Jim Silverio  
Jim Corrao - Capt.  
Rich McDonald  
Bob Dennis  
Mike Malloy  
Glen Govey  
Bob Gauthier

Tom Allingham  
Jeff Kaitschuck - Capt.  
Brian McGee  
Don Rist  
George Creely  
Rich Brown  
Ben Johnson  
Scot Haverly - Capt.  
Pete Strazdas

Coach: Jim Sheehan

## Sports on the spot

It is no secret that neither the basketball team nor the hockey team is doing well, I would like to speculate on what I see as being the problem. It is the same thing that has made men sell their souls and women their bodies for centuries - money. The physical education department is forced to run on a budget that would embarrass Lobo the Hobo.

The hockey team has some of the best talent it has had in years, yet it is not having one of it's better seasons. In the course of their 4-6 record they have lost three one goal games. Coach Tom Christopher feels the problem is not having enough ice-time for practice. Our hockey team is allotted 3 to 4 hours practice per week. Westfield State, who beat the Falcons at home by two goals is practicing 10 to 12 hours per week. If a team that you are playing is getting 3 or more hours of parctice per week then your are, it can definitely be a factor in a one goal game. the

hockey teams frustration was somewhat eased with a hard earned 4-3 victory over Nichols last week.

The basketball team has too much talent to have a 2-10 record. During the season they have suffered two overtime loses, two one point loses and one two point loss. It is certain that the pinch in the budget is having it's affect on the attitude of the club. A team cannot play like a top caliber team or compete against top caliber teams if they aren't given that attitude from their school. Indirectly, I don't believe that our college is able to pay for a coach who is good enough to make it a winner under the present conditions.

So is there a solution? You can wager that his Honorable Bank Vault Dukakis isn't going to crack. Fitchburg State is going to have to help itself.

by Paul Hallion

## Increase or bust

Fitchburg State College is a small college whose athletic budget is suffering. Two years ago, we stood even across the board with the other state colleges, but it seems as they move forward we move backwards. North Adams and Salem State are proud owners of beautiful field house complexes while Westfield State is the home of an astroturf soccer field and a rubcore quarter track. Fitchburg is the sad owner of one gymnasium.

The athletic fee of other colleges rises high above Fitchburg, for we belong to the lowest athletic fee. Because of the lack of funds we have already cut some sports and will have to cut more next year. Soon we will be disgracingly left with a few Varsity sports.

Sports serve as a physical conditioner for

many students as well as entertainment for others. Intramurals allow any student to participate but will soon end if a new budget is not put into immediate effect. Good sports also gives a school tremendous bargaining power that can be used wisely to our advantage.

How can anyone expect Fitchburg to compete on an equal level with other state schools when having only one quarter of the facilities. It is drawback enough that we are such a small school.

If everyone puts a little bit into the fight we will be able to raise our heads high as we watch many of our equally funded teams zoom to victory.

By Bill Andrews



## Falconette roundball



Coach Barbara Nole

Those of you who are sulking over the poor records posted to date by the men's varsity basketball and hockey teams might be interested to know that Fitchburg State College has an outstanding women's basketball program directed by Barbara Nole.

These Falcons blasted their opponents off the court in the first five games of the season. They destroyed Bentley, 90-53. Top scorers for Fitchburg were Judy Seguin 22 pts., Debbie Dion 20 pts., and Denise Plante 15 pts. Judy and Debbie also worked together at controlling the boards.

Curry College was ridiculous 82-16. Clark Univ. fell victim as well, 75-23. Judy Seguin lead our scorers again with 15. Lisa Adams and Debbie Dion hit 14 and 13 respectively.

The Falcons sunk deep into Gordon College, 85-29. Again the big shots were Debbie Dion 16 points and Judy Seguin 15 points. Team Captain MaryAnne "Smiley" Finn also scored 15 points. Smily is playing well while recovering from an injury.

Eastern Nazarene presented an apparent threat but still floundered, 63-44. Debbie Dion 15 pts., Smily 12 pts. Miss Nole was very disenchanted with the team's overall performance.

The biggest challenge (and the first of several big games ahead) this season was Keene State (31 Jan.) but the Falcons still fly high at 6-0. This was a very rough game physically and Fitchburg handled the competition very well despite the fact that several members were suffering from the flu. The 63-59 final doesn't reflect the tempo of the contest. The girls overcame a 15 pt. halftime deficit and a poor exhibition of officiating to pull off the most satisfying win. This win is particularly significant since Keene was one of only three teams to defeat the female faction of the Burg., last year. (17-3) High scorers were Judy Seguin 18,

Debbie Dion 16, Lisa Adams 10. Smily was valuable as a rebounder.

Their feathers were ruffled at Boston College last week however, in a tough loss 38-37. Of course Fitchburg should have won but the game was marred by poor shooting. Debbie Dion had 10, Lisa Adams 14, MaryAnne Finn 8 pts. Smily and Debbie were dominant rebounders. Defensively Fitchburg was great. It was close all the way.

The Falcons bounced back to defeat North Adams 51-46. Seguin and Finn had 10 a piece, Dion 7, but these three also controlled the boards. Surprisingly Fitchburg saw 3 of their players foul out.

Central Connecticut State clipped their wings Saturday. CCSC is division two but Fitchburg played like they were hungover. Carelessness resulted in too many turnovers. Central usually capitalized on the Burg's mistakes. Central also displayed good ball control and solid defense. The final score was 71-59. This setback is not about to ground the Falcons for long. They are sure to come on like gangbusters the rest of the season.

I mentioned only the top 2 or 3 scorers in each game and perhaps this is an injustice to the supporting cast, because it is important to note that this club consists of a deep, well-balanced attack complemented by good defense. The '76 Falcons include:

Seniors - Judy Seguin, Debbie Dion, MaryAnne Finn, Mary Means. Junior - Denise Plante. Sophomores - Lisa Adams, Lisa Bramante, Chris Korona, Cheryl Mennino. Freshmen - Debbie Coburn, Pattie Gardner, Linda Reedy.

These young women are deserving of some goddamn recognition so let's fill the gym for the next home game. It will be an exciting evening I'm sure.

Rick Gallant

## FOR THE RECORD

A roundup of the week Jan. 12-18

by TGJ

**PRO FOOTBALL** — KANSAS CITY forced Cleveland into seven turnovers, four crullers and a box of cupcakes as they humbled the Browns 56-17. CHICAGO played a scoreless first half against the Dallas Cowboys but put on a magnificent half time show in their locker room featuring Flip Wilson, Bobby Gentry and the Dave Brubeck Quartet. At PITTSBURGH, Franco Harris rushed for three and a half hours but could not make the game against Baltimore in time. GREEN BAY's John Brockinton set a single game record of drinking 32 cups of water as the Packers came from behind to lose easily to the Detroit Lions 43-21.

**BOXING** — In a non-title bout CARLOS ZIRCON floored Bobby Roberts nine times with his jokes & imitations, but Roberts went on to take a 10 round split decision. Heavyweight contender JERRY QUARRY agreed to meet lighthweight champ Bob Foster for dinner at Joe's Pier 52 Restaurant in New York City February 24.

**PRO BASKETBALL** — League prexy's are considering a new rule change: give each team 100 points at the start of the game and just play for 5 minutes. If the game is tied simply play another 5 minutes until someone wins. THE NEW YORK KNICKS have won 23 straight games at home at the Post Junior High School playground but have not yet won a game at Madison Square Garden where they play HBA teams.

**ODDZ & ENZ** — FIRED - LES MOTOR, as coach of the Denver Peaks soccer team for embezzling \$185,000 of company money for the past three years. This explained the fact that although the Peaks were drawing record crowds, they were always in the red.

**TRADED** — A genuine Buck Hunting Knife and 6 packs of BB's by Portland's Geoff Petrie to L.A. Laker Jim McMellian for an official NFL Football.

**HIRED AGNES MULVEY**, 19 - graduate of the Bleeding Virgin High School and Mackey Secretarial School, as assistant bookkeeper for the front office of the Manilla Envelopes, the new A.L. expansion team.

**WRINKLED** — A new polyester and linen suit worn by JOHNNY BENCH on a cross country plane trip to San Diego from New York. It was the only suit he packed and because of schedule changes he had no time to get it pressed and had to wear it to an awards luncheon.

## Visions of the sugarplum



by Bernard J. Schultz III

"This country can't stand four more years of Jerry Ford," was the statement echoed by Senator Birch Bayh and supported by his fellow Democratic hopefuls as Democratic Presidential Candidates gathered recently in Acton, Massachusetts for a public forum. Each candidate was permitted to open with a brief speech, followed by a question and answer period before a capacity audience of approximately 900 people in the Acton-Boxborough Regional High School Auditorium.

Generally, the candidates present - Representative Morris Udall of Arizona, Senator Henry Jackson of Washington, Governor Milton Schapp of Pennsylvania, former Senator Fred Harris of Oklahoma, and the aforementioned Senator Bayh of Indiana - utilized the time afforded to them for an attack on the Ford Administration. Often, their declarations were quite similar domestically as their party platform emerged. Due to this congruence, one questioner asked of Representative Moe Udall just what was the distinguishing factor between Mr. Udall and Mr. Bayh. Udall replied that, "I am not here to disparage or compare, that is your job." And a job it certainly is when one considers that of all the candidates present, only Senator Jackson put forward his views on foreign policy for the audience's scrutiniz-

ation.

At any rate, some of the aspirant's proposals are seemingly pleasing to both the ear and the pocketbook. Senator Bayh has continually called for the codification of the criminal code and the passage of both a comprehensive health insurance plan and the Equal Rights Amendment. Representative Udall also calls for National Health Insurance and the Equal Rights Amendment while also advocating the Full Employment Act. Senator Jackson devotes his energies to better management of the economy and foreign policy through the concept of long-range planning. He states that "detente must be a two-way street." Governor Schapp stresses his entrepreneurial abilities and his proposal for the abolition of the property tax through the use of a trust fund. Finally, former Senator Harris is intending to prey upon monopolistic, big businesses as a champion of the working man.

All in all, a majority of the Democratic Presidential Candidates have much to offer to their constituents potentially. In any event, the difficult choice seems to be possible best facilitated when one sets about to choose the most forceful, persuasive member of the group to not only restore the integrity of the Oval Office, but also to plainly get this country moving again.

## How to see your government files and add to them at the same time

In the request letter, provide your full name and full present address and your Social Security number. It is also helpful to include your phone number. Many federal agencies now require that your signature on the request letter be notarized, to insure that you are who you say you are.

The law states that you are entitled to a response within ten working days. Your letter should request a response within that time.

If your request is denied in whole or in part, you have the right of appeal. The denial letter by the agency will give you the name of the person within the agency to whom the appeal should be sent. Your appeal must be answered by the agency within twenty working days. If your appeal is denied and you still want to pursue your records, you can file suit in the Federal District Court of your hometown, in the District of Columbia, or where your records are kept.

In addition to your right to study your own files, the Freedom of Information Act allows you to request changes or deletions in the information they contain, and gives you control over what other agencies that information is passed on to.

The Freedom of Information Act does hold one slight Catch 22. If you do have records in a particular agency, your request letter for those records will be added to them. And if you didn't have a file before, you do now: a file will be started and your request for your file will be the first item in it.

— You may be more important than you think.

If you belong to a black student group; if you have participated in any one of a wide range of campus political activities; if you have had any connection with a group even vaguely radical, then there may be a file on you somewhere in Washington. Under the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act (a recent amendment to the original Freedom of Information Act), you can obtain those files.

There are more than 100 government agencies which have some sort of intelligence function. Under the new law, you may make requests to any federal agency. Several agencies have admitted to conducting illegal investigations of American citizens. These include the CIA, the FBI, the Justice Department, the Department of Defense, the Civil Service Commission, the Secret Service and the Internal Revenue Service.

To obtain files under the Act, write a letter to each agency from which you want to request your records. Your letter should initially indicate that it is a request under the Freedom of Information Act as amended: Section 552 of Title 5, United States Code.

State that you are requesting records stored under your name or documents containing your name. You should indicate the willingness to pay reasonable fees for search and copying, though you may wish to request a waiver of fees (the CIA routinely waives fees on request for personal records - other agencies, do not). The charges may range anywhere from \$10 to \$50.





# Unleash the creative fires of your soul.



Join the Rhetoric Staff.

Cover the stories as  
they happen.

The Rhetoric is on top  
of the news whether it  
concerns Fitchburg State's

powerful Student Government,

glamorous social life,



big time sports program,

revolutionary classrooms



or just the ordinary, everyday  
occurrences on campus.

## WHAT THE CRITICS ARE SAYING ABOUT THE RHETORIC

"It is innovative, raw, belicose, inspirational, important, bovine, current,  
outrageous, and just plain silly." — The Birmingham Brigadier

"It is a vital publication of American integrity. It is the voice of middle  
America." — Bob Hope

"Je suis Truffaut." — Francoise Truffaut

"Don't miss it, even if you see nothing else this year. It is one of the  
season's 10 best and may cop the big one at the Oscar ceremonies." — Rex Reed

"Never has the mood of a generation been captured so aptly nor so  
emotionally. It is an amazingly breathtaking publication. The Rhetoric is by  
far the best newspaper in America!" — The N.Y. Times

" — Harry S. Truman



The next staff meeting is this Tuesday at 3 p.m. in our office in  
the basement of Thompson Hall. Please attend. All are welcome.



# BULLETINS

## THURSDAY NIGHT REGULARS

Thursday night February 26, a movie will be shown in Weston Auditorium. "Sacco and Vanzetti" will be sponsored by Cultural Events.  
Also on Thursday night there will be a hockey game at Landry Arena. The Burg is up against Plymouth State College. Let's have everyone down there rooting for our men in green!!

Alkie,  
Happy Valentines Day, Happy every day with you.  
Booza

## UPCOMING HOME SPORTING EVENTS

Photography Exhibition by Clifton Howells Davis, in Campus Center Art Gallery. Daily 1-6, Feb. 13-14.

Men's Basketball  
Feb. 21 vs. Westfield State 8:00 p.m.  
Feb. 23 vs. Boston State 8:00 p.m.

Ice Hockey  
Feb. 19 vs. Boston State 7:15 p.m.  
Feb. 26 vs. Plymouth State 7:15 p.m.

## UPCOMING CONCERTS

ORPHEUM  
Bette Midler Feb. 20-24  
Super Tramp March 5  
Uriah Heep March 13  
Electric Light Orchestra March 19

MUSIC HALL  
Joni Mitchell Feb. 19  
Cat Stevens Feb. 27  
Carole King Feb. 29

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

Winter Carnival  
February 24 - 29  
Details at Campus Center Information Desk

Jonathan Edwards in concert at Weston Auditorium

Campus Center Trip to Boston Celtics - L.A. Lakers game  
March 10, 1976  
7:30 p.m. - \$6.00 for ticket and bus.  
Sign up at the information desk or games area

The Brothers of Alpha Phi Omega wish to extend a hearty welcome back to the student body. The recently completed APO Book Exchange held in the Campus Center, was an overwhelming success. We would like to thank the administration, faculty, and students for making the book exchange possible.

The Brothers are looking forward to many new and innovative service and social activities to foster an enjoyable semester for all.

Best of Luck in the new semester.

The Brothers of ALPHA PHI OMEGA  
John Mockler  
3rd Vice- Pres.

The Brothers of Alpha Phi Omega would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the founding Sisters of Gamma Sigma Sigma in their attempt to foster campus unity in service. Good Luck in the future.

Wanted: Students who possess mediocre to splendid writing skills to join the Rhetoric team. We'll even accept excruciatingly terrible writers (Be prepared to sweep the office or do the editor's laundry).

## STRICTLY PERSONAL

Considerate and good-looking 21 year old male interested in meeting Bi-couple to share profound conversations about Kant and Camus as well as joining in open erotic sensual times. Inquire Box 5718. Please send a photograph and a tape recorded, high-pitched scream.

Shlitz. Be on tap at the Pub some nite soon!  
The junior

To the being who scoffed up the suede gloves I inadvertently left in the mail room - Enjoy them, loser, for if I ever spot you with them, I'll rip your hands off!  
If, however, I have improperly judged your character you can bring them to the Rhetoric office where they will be returned to their rightful owner.

Although Roger Goodwin has left Fitchburg State, he is most definitely still with us in spirit.

For Sale. 1 Sears Car Top carrier 4 Cu. Ft. big. new \$79.99. Asking \$55 or best offer. Will fit any car. Call 537-6092 after 5 p.m.

## Lobbying: continued from page 8

In setting up a lobby, it should be considered that while the primary effect of the lobby will be to obtain legislation, the lobby itself will also provide a training arena for interns. A typical set-up for a lobby organization is one full-time lobbyist, one secretary/clerk/research assistant, and three "interns" (one working with lobbyists on "the hill" and two working in research). These positions are rotated, so that all trainees have an equal opportunity to obtain experience. As the lobbyists gain experience, expertise and skill is developed with the organization through long-term involvement with the profession. In state schools today, there exists some problem in deciding in which direction to move in obtaining funds, and thus even finding financing for political and legal aid is a major difficulty to student leaders, and a danger does exist in submerging the interests of a small school such as FSC beneath larger state universities who have more power and money; the concerns are not always the same, and the smaller ones will be lost first. A stream-lined committee to direct and control student lobbies is, in such cases, a necessity. In order to fund lobbies, student organizations may solicit outside interest groups, promising their support for future efforts of that organization in return for their financial aid now. In such efforts as in others, Clayman again stressed the value of long-term involvement, and maintained once more that voting loyalty, political education, etc., rest on this continuity of interest; an organization and individuals that do not shift every four years as student leaders do. The organization will maintain an on-going seat of information, experience and knowledge for the student who is inexperienced, ignorant and new at his job.

At the state level, the director of the lobby organization performs a very important function; this individual becomes a well-

known figure among legislators, is responsible for the quality of the product (research data) and works constantly to maintain accuracy of information, despite the natural "bias" that exists in obtaining and providing it.

Clayman introduced an interesting "trick" for would-be lobbyists; the aides to congressional leaders are often more approachable, more available, and more likely to provide frank answers to questions than their bosses. Where the politician tries to please everybody, being non-committal and avoiding direct confrontation as a maneuver, the aides will probably listen to a lobbyist's stand and then tell it like it is as to the likelihood of this issue being favorably received. The aides determine and direct the flow of information for the legislators for whom they work. Again the "whom to talk to" dilemma; it is the function of the lobbyist to find out whom to talk to, and often this decision is more essential than any other in getting something done. The lobbyist must identify "key" people; identify and go after possible "swing votes" and get to these people with the information they want and need to make their decisions.

The power of an organization is in the product, not the name, and therefore a lobby organization need not necessarily be called such to perform its function; but the group must register with an office in the State Capitol, filling out the proper forms in order to be recognized as a proper organization with the right to carry on lobbying activities. After this relatively painless procedure is performed, it remains only for the new organization to adhere to the rules of most others in filing a statement of income with the proper authorities.

One might ask how to determine the efficacy of a lobby; legislators might easily provide this information. Recently, according to Mr. Clayman, a number of inquiries were

made into how much influence certain lobbies had among legislators, and the outcome significantly determined just how effective they were by establishing which issues were successful, and how many individuals minds were changed by a lobby's efforts. Other means of determining efficacy would be to determine which lobbyists were sought for membership in coalitions, what information was requested and by whom, and whether the power of the organization is recognized by others. One noteworthy means of determining the latter is to look at an "enemies list", inclusion in which would ensure that an organization is considered a power to be contended with.

Limits must be set for an organization's goals; what ideals are improbable, what compromises can be made, and what are the long-term vs long-term goals. IE: a victory now might not guarantee any future benefits, and conversely, a compromise might provide a better long-term situation than a victory.

For anyone interested in finding out more specific information about lobbying and what it could mean to you, write:

LOBBYING SECTION  
SCA Information  
2115 South Street, NorthWest,  
Washington, D.C. 20008



## Aubuchon News

### CH-CH-CH-CHANGES

Aubuchon Hall has undergone several changes recently. They began with the induction of a resident aide system. This provided for resident aides within the building whose duties include writing sick plate notes for the cafeteria, staying on the floor during duty times, eliciting counseling for troubled students, and have been counseled for emergency situations.

This situation indirectly resulted in elections for a new president and social chairman, following their resignation. Campaigning was dominant throughout the week of February 1, culminating in elections on Thursday. Winners of the elections are as follows:

President	Eileen Cahill
Social Chairman	Linda (Qy) Quinn
Judicial Board	Ann Marie Carroll
	Diane (Chumley) Stabile
	Karen Johnson

Parietal hours were also voted on, and even though the majority voted for Monday through Thursday 12 - 12 and 24-hour weekends, unfortunately, it was not a 2/3 majority and resulted in no change. The hours remain Monday through Thursday 3:00 - 11:00 and 24-hr. weekends.

Hopefully this new blood at the start of a new semester will serve to bring about new activities, and make Aubuchon Hall more enjoyable.



# ENTERTAINMENT

## The music of 1975

After the trendless and predominantly undynamic musical going-ons of 1974, 1975 came through with much more spark and hope. While last year saw a lot of optimistic musical rumblings coming from somewhere underground, it was really the year of the superstars, with Elton John, Stevie Wonder, Bob Dylan, Paul McCartney, and John Denver commanding hugely disproportionate shares of the musical pie. During 1975, the acceptance of these artists continued, but the record buying public became a little more adventurous while many of the well-knowns themselves ceased to sit so comfortably upon their laurels.

### Dylan

Bob Dylan for the second consecutive year was the biggest story, first with his continued evolution on the might *Blood On The Tracks* in January, and then with the "official" release of the legendary 1967 *Basement Tapes*, the Rolling Thunder Revue, and the "Hurricane" single. With the Revue, Dylan did what many famed musicians have talked of for years. By appearing with little prior publicity in small halls throughout the sticks of New England, Dylan, McGuinn, Ronson, Baez and company reached many people who wouldn't ordinarily make it into the Big City to see a concert.

### Springsteen

If the covers of America's two biggest home "journals" are to be believed, 1975 was also the year of the Making of Bruce Springsteen. While in front of large audiences Bruce seems to lack the ultimate earthy charisma which was so apparent in more intimate settings, it is still too early to tell if he will fall victim (like so many before him) to the star syndrome, thereby losing his stuff. *Born To Run*, the item which bore the brunt of the Springsteen hype was certainly a welcome sight in the Top Ten, even if it lacked the all around guts of his first two

albums. The single still sounds out of place on AM radio, and that's something we could certainly stand a lot more of.

### Pink Floyd

1975 was full of surprises, comebacks, and silliness, not necessarily in that order. One of the most powerful surprises came from one of the world's most popular groups, Pink Floyd. Best known for their technically perfect 360 degree stage shows and their immaculately produced records, the Floyds this year wrote one of rock music's strongest statements ever, their dynamic and visionary *Wish You Were Here*. The album is both a tribute to the original group leader Syd Barrett who broke down under the pressure of his pursuit of recognition, and a serious slash at the dehumanizing impact of modern day life in general and the music business in particular. It is rare for a group who could sell millions of copies of whatever sounds they made to make such a sophisticated, if uncommercial recording, but in doing so, Pink Floyd have done themselves proud.

Other once excellent, now firmly established musical fixtures didn't do quite so well. Both Led Zeppelin and Jethro Tull came up with hardly memorable records during the year. Linda Ronstadt and the Eagles both declined musically while achieving their highest popularity. It was also a decidedly off-year for Frank Zappa, one of the few mainstays who has helped keep contemporary music serious through all its downs and ups.

On the brighter side, true rock veterans and long-time favorites, The Who and The Kinks, both made strong showings in 1975. The Who with the controversial rock movie *Tommy* and their long awaited new studio album, the powerfully subtle *The Who By Numbers*, and The Kinks with the insightful interesting, more welcome, and more obscure tidbit is that *Red Octopus*, the latest offering from the Jefferson Starship, has already (as of this writing) been the number one album on four different occasions. Though the



The Kinks rebounded from their schmaltzy Soap Opera with *Schoolboys In Disgrace*, and educated musical which proves that Ray Davies still has his stuff.

record lacks the west coast magic of the classic Airplane recordings (*Pillow, Baxter's, Creation*), it isn't without its inspired charm. "Miracles," even with all its AM play, is a gem.

In the blasts from somewhere department, both the "original" Quicksilver Messenger Service and the unoriginal Flying Burrito Bros. (once the pinnacle of the country rock groups) reformed, each neither as exciting nor as good as before. And don't forget Neil Young's get-back-together with Crazy Horse (well, some of them) for his best record in quite some time. A new version of Fleetwood

Mac came up this year with their best album since the Peter Green days.

and sociological masterpiece *Schoolboys In Disgrace*, making up for the void that was *Soap Opera*.

Chartwatchers had a few things to get excited over during the year. Most shocking was the unprecedented act of Elton John's breaking in at number one, not once, but with both of his 1975 album releases. This is a lesson in the way records are ordered on the wholesale level, with a name carrying a great deal more weight than actual quality. A more

## At 104 on your FM dial

by Steven Alto



There's a radio station in Fitchburg that I would like to have fire bombed out of existence. Not for the simple matter that I detest their music, because that would be easy to take care of, just tune the receiver in to a more desirable station. The problem is that this FM country music station is right on top of my favorite FM station. They constantly interfere with each other, and I find it somewhat nerve wracking to hear a duet between Hank Snow and Mick Jagger.

The only solution seems to be elimination. Since violence does seem to be a little extreme for the situation, I thought of another way. I could totally destroy their following if I could have a prime time show for a week, or even one night.

My show would start off innocently enough...

Me: Good evening hoe down freaks and welcome to the "Country Showdown". Throughout the evening I'd be asking trivia questions and the first caller with the right answer gets exciting prizes. My first question is, what year did the popular song "When My Love Came Knocking on the Outhouse Door", become a smash hit?

(Two songs and 15 callers later)

Me: Folks we have a winner, if you want to call him that. Sir whats your name?

Caller: Alex, Alex Coff. That was mine and my wife's favorite when we were courtin'. I remember it had to be the fall of 1953 cause the '44 Ford broke down. The only thing that worked in it was the radio, and we used to set out there for hours listenin to it.

Me: Interesting, but now you've a winner! Do you have any idea what is in store for you? Do you like Tammy Wynette and Merle Haggard?

Alex: Do I? You bet!

Me: Sorry but I can't give you those records. But I'll tell you what I will give you. Ready? The complete collection of albums by... PINK FLOYD!! Aren't you excited! And thats not '!! You also get two tickets to the next

Grateful Dead Concert at the Boston Garden! What have you got to say now?

Alex: Floyd who? And I never heard of anything called a Grateful Dead! It sounds scary!

Me: Well, give those records a spin and see the concert, and I'm sure you'll have more to say later. Congratulations! Bye!

(Another phone call)

Me: Hello, you're on Country Showdown.

Caller: Ah yeah, ah, is it too late to say 1953 for the answer? I remember cause...

Me: I'm sorry, but we just got a winner. Well, its not to late to win on "I just woke up. What was the question again" consolation prize. Are you ready? Five hits of windowpane acid!! But don't try to pick it up at the station, or we'll pretend we don't know you. We'll have it dropped off at the closest phone booth to your house. Got that. Now I'll take you off the air and will arrange the drop. Oh and by the way don't eat it all at once. Congratulations. Bye!

Me: Now for a song everybody's been asking for. Heres Frank Zappa direct from "200 Motels" and "This Town (is a Sealed Tuna Sandwich.)" I never knew Zappa came to Fitchburg. But where else could he be talking about?

## Kudos to The Rimers of Eldritch

On the evenings of December 11, 12 and 13, the Players Guild presented Landford Wilson's *The Rimers of Eldritch*, before small audiences at the McKay Auditorium. The production was absolutely top-rate. The turnout was disappointing and reflective of a cultural ignorance that seems to pervade this college. Tickets were free yet the theatrical performances were still overshadowed by such spectacles as an all-college hangover at the Pub and one of those frequent Falcon wipe-outs on the basketball court.

Eugene Casassa's production, *The Rimers of Eldritch*, was certainly not a wipe-out. It was another fine example of the exceptional talents possessed by the members of the Players Guild.

The entire cast performed admirably in the *Rimers of Eldritch*, a suspenseful drama about an incident that plagues a small town and unleashes the shallowness and the hatred of its inhabitants. Offering particularly fine performances were Robin Ulcht as Coro Groves, Phylliss Liberman as Eva Jackson and Lewis Randolph as Skelley Manor. Randolph's portrayal of Skelley, a harmless, old derelict, in the scene in which he recalls a long-ago lover, provided the emotional apex of an emotionally inspiring play.

Everyone connected with the production of *The Rimers of Eldritch* deserves a wealth of praise. They also deserve larger, more appreciative audiences for future productions.

## Special Education Club notices

Next Thursday, February 19, at 1 p.m., there will be a Special Education Club General Meeting in the Science Lecture Hall.

Nominations and elections for a new vice-president to the club will take place at this time.

The club thanks those who participated in the Valentine's Dance for Big-Brother, Big-Sister, Templeton Dance, and who have been keeping up with their volunteer work.

Remember: JAIL DAY IS COMING!!

## Bloodmobile returns

The Northeast Regional Red Cross Blood Program will be accepting blood donors February 25 and 26 from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. in Lobby B of the Student Union building. Due to the great turnout last October, and in anticipation of an even greater turnout this time, the Red Cross will be sending additional equipment and nurses. There will be a donor appointment sheet in the library, where donors may sign up for an appointment to give blood. The appointments will not be held strictly as its main purpose is to get an estimate to the amount of people donating blood and at what time. If you sign up for a certain time and can't make it, then just come back at another time (within the two days of course).

As always the need for blood is great. The Red Cross is hoping for a similar response to last October when over 400 people came to donate blood. This was the largest in FSC history and one of the best college responses in Central Massachusetts. Do something for someone else Winter Carnival Week - give a pint of your blood.

See you there,  
James Corrao





# Knights in white satin

The theme of 1976 Winter Carnival is "Nights in White Satin." The semi-formal will take place on February 28, 1976, from 6:30 - 12:00 at the Chateau de Ville in Framingham. The tickets are \$12.00 per couple and are being sold between the hours of 10:00 and 9:00 daily at the information desk at the Student Union building.

The meal being served that night should be superb, consisting of supreme of fresh fruit deVile, followed by boneless breast of chicken, oven roast Idaho potatoes, fresh string beans almondine, mixed green garden salad, and for dessert rainbow fudge fantasy.

The band will be Comfort an excellent group that is featured at the Hideaway Lounge in Milford.

A good time will be had by all, the tickets are going fast and will be on sale until February 20.

Remember that tickets will be checked so be sure to bring them with you!!



Tuesday, February 24  
Concert - Jonathan Edwards & Wendy Waldman, Weston Auditorium, \$3.00 with I.D. 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 25  
To be announced

Thursday, February 26  
Movie - "Sacco and Vanzetti", Weston Auditorium  
Hockey game - The Burg vs. Plymouth State College, Landry Arena Free with I.D.

Friday, February 27  
To be announced

Saturday, February 28  
Window murals judged 11:00 a.m.  
Semi-formal dinner dance Chateau de Ville, Framingham 6:30 - 12:00 Tickets will be checked.

Sunday, February 29  
Movie - To be announced. 50 cents with I.D. 2:00 p.m.  
Skating party at the Civic Center 9:30 - 1:00, Free with I.D.



*Bring a date*



*and enjoy a great meal*

# Winter Carnival will

